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TRANSACTIONS

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TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEARS 1870 AND 1871,

EMBRACING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWO CONVENTIONS HELD AT CHICAGO AND NEW YORK RESPECTIVELY.

ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED AT CHICAGO
September 27, 1870.

NEW YORK:
PRINTED BY GEO. R. YATES & CO.
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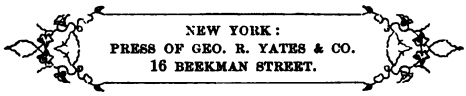
1872.

1777



SECRETARY'S PREFACE.

In preparing these Transactions for publication, many difficulties have presented themselves, which combine to render the Volume less perfect than we would like to have it. The stenographers having mislaid the manuscript of the Constitution and By-Laws, and being unable to find it when the other papers were ready for the printer, I was obliged to re-write it from memory, and thus some errors occurred, as for instance in Article I, of the By-Laws, the corrections of which will be found in the Errata at the end of the Volume. A few other errors and omissions will also be found under the same head.

The Publishing Committee have prepared an elaborate Report of the Transactions of the National Eclectic Medical Associations, held yearly, from 1848 to 1855, which makes a valuable historical record of the early Reform movement in this country. Its volume is so great that it is found impossible to embody it with these Transactions, and therefore the Executive Committee have determined to present the Report at the next annual meeting of the Association, in order that some provision may be made for publishing it in full.

The Report of J. S. Johnson, M. D., of Vermont, did not come into my hands at all, while the paper he afterward forwarded to me came too late for publication.

With its many defects, this Volume of Transactions goes forth to Profession; but the Secretary feels confident that the labor expended during the past two years, in order to perfect the organization of a National Eclectic Medical Association, will facilitate the preparation of the next Volume of Transactions, so that it will be free from the many imperfections found in this.

JULY 1, 1872.

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PREAMBLE,

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS,

AND

CODE OF ETHICS

OF THE

NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,

ADOPTED AT CHICAGO, (ILLS.), SEPT. 28, 1870.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, We regard it as one of the most important duties of the Medical Profession to investigate Truth, from whatever source it may come, and in every proper mode to encourage the fullest and freest investigation by all: and

Whereas, We regard all combinations to proscribe and degrade any portion of the Medical Profession, merely on account of a difference of opinion in matters of science, as a serious crime against the true interests of the Medical Profession, against the welfare of the community, and against the common rights of man: and

Whereas, We regard it as incumbent upon all medical reformers to treat all members of the Profession with a spirit of liberality and courtesy, to abstain from personal and disparaging remarks in reference to difference of doctrine, and to cultivate those amicable relations which admit of co-operation in the pursuit of Truth: and

Whereas, The great struggle of the present day, in medical science, is between the spirit of freedom on the one hand, which is seeking boldly for truth in science, and the spirit of conservative despotism on the other, which aims to perpetuate opinions by the force of organized combinations, and to discountenance or suppress every attempt at reform, whatever may be its merits or its source: and

Whereas, We regard all medical reformers who are struggling for the improvement and freedom of the Profession, as engaged in a holy cause, and we regard it as the duty of all such, whatever may be their differences of opinion upon minor points, to unite in the most cordial manner, as the American Colonies united in their struggle for freedom: and

Whereas, The confederacy of the patriotic colonies which achieved the freedom of America resulted in the establishment of a national union of independent States, forming a true republic; so we hope that the confederacy of medical reformers may not only achieve a revolution, but establish in the highest degree of freedom and harmony, the CONFEDERATED REPUBLIC OF MEDICAL SCIENCE: Therefore

Resolved, That we organize ourselves into an Association, based upon the broad and liberal principles of Progressive Medicine, as expressed in the foregoing Preamble: and

Resolved, That we adopt the following Constitution, By-Laws, and Code of Ethics, for the government of the Association.

CONSTITUTION.

—o—

Article I.

This Society shall be known by the name of the National Eclectic Medical Association.

Article II.

This Association shall be governed by the usual Parliamentary rules, and shall have the power of adopting such measures, rules and by-laws as may be deemed necessary and proper.

Article III.

The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President ; three Vice Presidents ; Recording Secretary ; Assistant Recording Secretary ; Corresponding Secretary ; and a Treasurer ; who shall perform the usual duties pertaining to their respective offices, and who shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Association, for the general management of its affairs, and for the transaction of all business not delegated to special committees. These officers shall be elected by ballot, annually, at a regular meeting of the Association.

Article IV.

There shall also be a Committee of three, on each of the following branches of Medical Science, namely : Theory and Practice of Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, Gynæcology, Materia Medica, Medical Botany and Pharmacy, Physiology, Chemistry, Opthalmic and Aural Surgery, Diseases of the Rectum and Anus, and Medical Statistics. These Committees shall be appointed by the President of this Association, and shall receive from the members of this Association, and from all friends of Medical Reform, all interesting cases, discoveries, improvements and suggestions, in the respective branches, as well as all other useful matter in relation to Medical Reform, and shall, annually, report the same to this Association.

Article V.

The Association shall meet and hold its meetings, annually, at such time and place as may be appointed by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

Article VI.

No alteration, amendment, or addition can be made to this Constitution except by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any regular meeting.

BY-LAWS.

Article I. — Membership.

Sec. 1. All graduates of regularly-organized Medical Colleges, as well as all practitioners who have been in reputable practice for the term of four years, with previous study, and who have been recommended by the Committee on Credentials, may become members of this Association.

Sec. 2. Each State Society shall have the right to elect six regular delegates and six alternates to represent it in this Association, who shall present their credentials, and, if reported upon favorably, may become members of this Association.

Sec. 3. States in which no organizations exist may be represented, to the number of twelve representatives, by physicians who may be eligible according to Sec. 1 of this Article.

Sec. 4. All persons becoming members of this Association at its first meeting will be considered permanent members.

Article II. — Fees and Dues.

Sec. 1. Each member of this Association shall pay an initiation fee of *five dollars.*

Sec. 2. The annual dues of this Association shall be *two dollars,* but members paying the initiation fee will not be required to pay dues the first year.

SEC. 3. Money thus received shall be used to defray the expenses attending the meetings of the Association, and for the publication of the transactions.

ARTICLE III.

It shall be the duty of all members of this Association, if not present at the regular meeting, to report themselves to the Secretary, either by letter or proxy.

ARTICLE IV. — QUORUM.

Fifteen members may constitute a quorum of the Association for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE V. — EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

Any member may be officially censured, invited to withdraw, or be expelled from the Association, for improper or unprofessional conduct, by a vote of two thirds of all the members present, provided that a specific charge has been made in writing, and the accused duly notified thereof.

ARTICLE VI.

Any member who shall fail to observe Articles *second* and *third*, for the term of two years, shall be considered as withdrawn from the Association.

ARTICLE VII. — ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Calling to order, and calling Roll of Officers.
2. Reception of Delegates.
3. Reading Minutes of last meeting.
4. Reports of Officers.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Reports of Committees, and action on the same.
7. Reading of Papers, and Discussions on the same.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Adjournment.

ARTICLE VIII. — AMENDMENTS.

A proposal to alter or amend the Constitution or By-Laws must be presented in writing, and read at a regular meeting, when it shall lie

over until the next Annual meeting, unless there is a unanimous desire to act upon it immediately; but no alteration shall at any time be made, except by a vote of two thirds of all the members present.

CODE OF ETHICS.

Article I.

The interests and rights of medical men are as dear to them as are those of any other class of citizens in this Republic; they are entitled by the Constitution of this great Union to the same freedom and privileges in moral, social, political and civil life, as are individuals pursuing any other vocation; and any Associations or Rules which would deprive them of the least portion of these rights and privileges are unwarranted usurpations, contrary to the spirit and intent of our American government, and, consequently, of no force in law or custom.

Article II.

The common rules and maxims of morality which are enjoined in the Bible, and have been recognized by the wise and virtuous at all times, and in every civilized country, are comprehensive enough in their scope, and sufficiently dignified in form, to meet all the contingencies and emergencies which in a moral point of view are likely to arise in the transaction of business and the interchange of thought and sentiment between man and man.

Article III.

Medical men have an undoubted right to bring themselves and their claims before the public by every fair and honorable means, — as much so as any other class of men. They may enter into general or special practice as they may consider best adapted to their interests, or to their peculiar views; they may introduce themselves to the notice of the public by printed cards or other publications, by public or private lectures, or by the publication of certificates of cures actually performed. But while it is clearly the right of the physician to thus present himself in a truthful, modest manner before the community, as a candi-

date for patronage, everything like boasting or self-adulation, all efforts at bombastic display which evince a purpose to excite the wonder of the people, and thereby to show on the part of the advertiser an unwillingness to trust his claims for public favor upon the simple truth, are highly disgusting to every right-minded person, and entirely unprofessional. The presence of laymen at operations is by no means objectionable if both the patient and operator are willing thereto, as it tends to make the skill and ability of the operator better known in his community, affords an incentive for medical men to perfect themselves in their profession, and cultivates a feeling of confidence on the part of the public which will lead them to seek for medical aid among the members of the Profession instead of among ignorant pretenders.

Article IV.

Attending upon the poor gratis is certainly a Christian charity, for the doing of which no fault can be found with any one.

Article V.

A medical man having invented any surgical instrument, that instrument becomes his capital, and there is nothing unprofessional in his obtaining a patent for the same. If it is right for our Government to issue patents to her citizens, it is equally right for them to hold patents ; and if it is not right in either case, no particular class of men or association is authorized to arraign the American Government and her citizens for trial, and sit in judgment upon them.

Article VI.

No person can be considered a physician who has not by collegiate attendance or otherwise, made himself acquainted, at least practically, with the departments of Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Materia Medica, Theory and Practice, Obstetrics, and Chemistry. Yet even among physicians thus recognized there may be a great diversity of opinion upon specific medical matters ; and no physician should be slighted or treated discourteously because of such differences.

No young man entering the Profession, after the adoption of this Code, shall be recognized as a physician unless he has attended two full courses of medical lectures and graduated from a regularly-chartered medical college.

Article VII.

The professional man should seek to combine in his character: 1. A thorough acquaintance with his profession; 2. Integrity, and unbending adherence to moral principle; 3. Self-respect, or a modest appreciation of what he is, and what he deserves; 4. Temperance; and, 5. Benevolence, or a generous consideration of the interests and feelings of his fellow men. These elements combined in the foundation of his character, and fully developed in his life, will constitute any man a true gentleman, and entitle him to a place in the highest rank of moral excellence.

Article VIII.

With respect to the duties of physicians to their patients, ever bearing in mind the great responsibility resting upon them in the discharge of their profession, physicians should always display a promptness and willingness in attending to the calls of the sick. The patient belongs to the physician so far as hygienic and therapeutic measures are concerned, until a cure is effected, or the physician discharged; and any neglect, inattention, or refusal to follow the directions of the attending physician, or any improper interference therewith, must necessarily relieve the physician from all censure and accountability in case of an unfavorable result originating therefrom.

A physician should display in the sick room a degree of cheerfulness consistent with the condition of his patients; he should comfort and cheer up the sick, encourage them to hope, when there are grounds for such encouragement, and manifest, in a gentlemanly and dignified manner, the sympathy and interest he takes in their welfare. Levity in the sick room, discussions or conversations concerning matters foreign to the condition or welfare of the sick person are unprofessional.

Misrepresentations of the seriousness of a disease for the purpose of impressing patients and others with the superior skill and ability of one's professional attainments, are wholly unprofessional. But when a disease is really of a serious character, the physician should not delay to apprise the relatives of the patient; and in some cases, in which the physician must employ his own judgment and discretion, the same may be made known to the patient, being careful to do so in a delicate and gentle manner, and always bearing in mind that the life of a patient frequently depends upon the words and manner of the physician in attendance.

In the practice of their profession, physicians frequently have confided to them, or become acquainted with, secrets of a moral, physical, domestic, or other nature, belonging to their patients ; these should always be held sacred, never to be referred to by the physician.

Neither is it proper nor professional for a physician to inform third parties, whether medical men or not, of the character of his patient's disease, in all cases, for there are many persons who shrink from having their diseases thus blazoned abroad, and such feelings should always be respected.

Article IX.

Physicians, their wives, their widows, and their children, when under the care and authority of their parents, whether they reside at home or are travelling abroad, should be professionally attended by practitioners in their immediate neighborhood, whenever such attentions are needed, without any required payment of fees.

Article X.

Physicians should cultivate a friendly feeling toward each other, notwithstanding differences of opinion upon medical subjects ; and, for the furtherance of this object, they should avoid misrepresenting or slandering any other physician ; they should avoid employing any direct or indirect means of destroying a patient's confidence in them, or of improperly securing the patronage of another's patients to themselves. They should, however, render their professional services to the patients of other physicians when these last shall request it, with or without fee, as may be agreed upon, and without seeking to supplant the regular attending physician ; and if called upon to attend a case in the absence, from sickness or other cause, of the attending physician, they should at once yield the case to the physician upon his arrival or recovery, unless the patient, patient's relatives, or physician request otherwise. The fees for all professional services rendered, unless otherwise agreed upon, should be paid to the person performing such services.

It is wrong for a physician to visit the patients of another physician unless with the consent of the latter.

In all cases of accident, sudden attacks of disease, etc., several physicians are frequently sent for. In such cases, in the absence of the regular attending physician of the patient or patients, the case or cases belong to the physician who first arrives, who should select, when this is necessary, from the others present, such assistants as

he may require. The fees for such cases should be paid as promptly as possible.

The fees for professional services should be regulated in every city, town, village, or county, by the resident physicians of such places, and an adherence to them will tend much to establish confidence and harmony; but when a physician attempts to secure or monopolize a practice by infringing upon the rights of others, in rendering professional services for fees below those which are customary or tacitly agreed upon by the medical practitioners of his neighborhood, city or town, etc., his fellow physicians may cease to affiliate with him any longer.

Whenever a patient becomes dissatisfied with his attending physician, and desires to dismiss him and employ another, he has a perfect right so to do; and this action of the patient and physician should not destroy the amicable relations existing between all the parties. But no physician should attend the patient of another, unless the two be in mutual attendance, until the previous physician has been formally dismissed.

Article XI.

As the object of a consultation is the welfare of the patient, physicians have the right to consult with whomsoever they choose. At such consultations, they may express their views, advise as to the course to be pursued, and prescribe if requested, for which a fee should be demanded.

Consultations should never be held in the presence of the patient, but the presence of a relative during the consultation should not be objected to when this is requested, as it serves to satisfy the friends that the physicians are really occupied with the patient's good, and tends to remove doubts and inspire confidence.

In a consultation, the attending physician should state his views first; and afterward, should more than one be in the consultation, they will express their several views according to their age, commencing with the youngest physician first. When the selection of the consulting physician rests upon the medical attendant, to avoid confusion, he should prefer those whose general medical opinions are the most in harmony with his own.

When two or several physicians are attending a patient, they should, at each visit, agree upon a treatment to be pursued, and a time to meet again, and they should observe the greatest punctuality in their visits; but if, from any cause, any of the parties should fail to be present at an appointed meeting after a reasonable time, the previous

treatment should be continued by the physician or physicians present, until the next meeting of the attendants. But in all cases of emergency, or where the condition of the patient is such as to demand it, any one of the attending physicians may change the treatment, of which he should notify the others at as early a period as possible, and at their next meeting explain his reasons for so doing. However, an unnecessary interference in the general treatment agreed upon, and clandestine and uncalled-for visits to the patient, are reprehensible, and should lead to the dismissal of the offending individual.

When physicians attending a patient cannot agree upon the disease or the course to pursue, they may, by the consent of the patient or of his kindred, call in other medical assistance ; or the patient, or his kindred, on being informed of the character of the disagreement, may discharge and retain such of the attendants as they choose, without the imputation of an offence or an unkindly act ; for in these matters, patients and their kindred have their rights equally with the physician.

In all other matters pertaining to physicians in their duties to their patients, the public, and themselves, an observance of the ordinarily recognized rules of truth, justice, and honor (a part of which rules it has been the endeavor to introduce into this Code), should be rigidly observed.

——o——

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Hall, John A.	Danville, Ills.
Hayden, Maria B.	New York city.
Hodgkins, W. B.	Rocky Hill, Conn.
Hulbert, Joel C.	Livonia, N. Y.
Harring, Maria B.	New York city.
Irish, L. B.	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Johnson, J. W.	Hartford, Conn.
Jones, Wm.	Newburg, N. Y.
Jay, Milton,	Chicago, Ills.
Jewell, O. H.	New London, Conn.
Johnson, Wm. S.	Milton, Vt.
Jones, Walter D.	Newburg, N. Y.
Johnston, John H.	New York city.
Jillson, H. D.	Ashburnham, Mass.

Jones, Josephine B.	New York city.
Jackson, Joseph	Boston, Mass.
Johnson, C. C.	Gononda, N. Y.
Jewett, Nathan	Ashburnham, Mass.
Jacobson, A. E.	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Kirkpatrick, George	La Harpe, Ills.
Kenney, Moses B.	Lawrence, Mass.
Kelley, Peter	New York city.
Kunze, Richard E.	New York city.
Kendrick, W. H.	Indianapolis, Ind.
Lewis, J. B.	Camp Point, Ills.
Long, Henry	Shelbyville, Ind.
Luddington, L. S.	New Britain, Conn.
Loomis, Ezra	Homer, N. Y.
Linguist, M. F.	New Haven, Conn.
Moe, Hiram	McGregor, Iowa.
Morgan, D. H.	Russellville, Ills.
Munn, S. B.	Waterbury, Conn.
Morehouse, E. M.	Owatonna, Minn.
Molesworth, Wm.	New York city.
McKlveen, J. A.	Chariton, Iowa.
Miller, H. G.	LaCrosse, Wis.
Morrow, P. A.	New York city.
Miles, M. M.	Aurora, Ills.
Mallery, W. A.	Howlet, Ills.
Mathews, H. L.	Brownsville, Neb.
McMaster, H. S.	Dowagiac, Mich.
Miller, Margaret A.	New York city.
Martin, N. R.	Sacarappa, Me.
McClem, Mathew	Northfield, Vt.
Miles, C. Edwin	Boston, Mass.
Mills, Rufus K.	Hartford, Conn.
Newton, O. E.	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Newton, Robert S.	New York city.
Newton, H. G.	Provincetown, Mass.
Newby, George	New York city.

Olin, Henry	Chicago, Ills.
Pickerell, George W.	Indianapolis, Ind.
Potter, S. H.	Hamilton, Ohio.
Preston, E. S.	Rochester, N. Y.
Pease, Hiram	Schenectady, N. Y.
Parrish, J. W.	Shelbyville, Ind.
Potter, A.	Springfield, Ohio.
Parsons, A. P.	Forestville, N. Y.
Price, V. Clarence	Waukegan, Ills.
Robinson, James H.	New Haven, Conn.
Reece, John H.	Joliet, Ills.
Ross, William	Wilton, Iowa.
Stow, Benjamin J.	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Stevens, E. W.	Shawano, Wis.
Shaw, Edward M.	Allen, Michigan.
Snell, E.	Minneapolis, Minn.
Smith, Wm. R.	Cairo, Ills.
Stralford, H. K.	Chicago, Ills.
Smith, D. E.	Brooklyn. N. Y.
Stowe, John	Lawrence, Mass.
Stanton, L. (deceased)	Copenhagen, N. Y.
Sturges, Daniel,	South Bend, Ind.
Shattuck, L. A.	Bridgeport, Conn.
Sidney, A. W.	Fitchburg, Mass.
Shepardson, Noah	Kankakee, Ills.
Springsteen, A. G.	Maquoketa, Iowa.
Thompson, C. D.	Oil City, Pa.
Teegarden, M. R.	Racine, Wis.
Tyrell, Pierce	Elgin, Ills.
Thompson, Alex.	Meadville, Pa.
Tuthill, Samuel	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Ussher, B. B.	Aurora, Ills.
Underwood, Helen E.	Chicago, Ills.
Van De Walker, James G.	Lafayette, Ind.
Van Skellene, Thomas	Brooklyn, N. Y.

Wescott, A. B.	Chicago, Ills.
Woodmansee, M. C.	Mosherville, Mich.
Wehr, S. F.	St. Louis, Mo.
Witham, C. E.	Wilton, Iowa.
Winans, R.	Benton Harbor, Mich.
Washburn, L. C.	Jerseyville, Ills.
Wohlgemuth, Henry	Springfield, Ills.
Waters, Z.	Bloomington, Ills.
Wiltze, Alex.	Strawberry Point, Iowa
Williams, David	Bristol, Ills.
Wood, Alfred A.	Jefferson, N. Y.
Whitford, H. K.	Chicago, Ills.
Whitford, Susan K.	Elgin, Ills.
Wood, Peter J.	Meriden, Ills.
Wilder, Alex.	New York city.
Willcocks, David,	Brooklyn.
West, Henry D.	Southbridge, Mass.
Wood, A.	Durhamville, N. Y.
Youart, J. M.	Indianapolis, Ind.
Young, H. N.	Chicago, Ills.

THE FIRST NATIONAL MEDICAL ECLECTIC CONVENTION.

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ACTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY.

THE Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York, at its semi-annual meeting in June, 1869, appointed Drs. ROBERT S. NEWTON, P. A. MORROW, and J. M. F. BROWNE, a Committee of Correspondence, in relation to the holding a National Convention of Physicians belonging to the New School of Medicine, with power to act for the said Society in designating the time for holding such Convention. The Committee so appointed have discharged that duty. After a full comparison of views with the officers of the several State Eclectic Medical Societies, and of the Eclectic Medical Colleges, they finally proposed and transmitted to the prominent officers and professors the following Circular Letter:

NEW YORK, April 25, 1870.

To the Officers of the State Eclectic Medical Societies and the Eclectic Medical Colleges.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York a Committee of Conference upon the subject of holding a National Eclectic Medical Convention, have corresponded with the officers of the various State Eclectic Medical Societies with reference to the most suitable time and place for holding the Convention.

The general sentiment of the societies seems to be in favor of Chicago as the place for the first meeting, and the month of September, 1870, as the best time.

Now, in view of these facts, we submit the enclosed call for your approval and signature; also a basis of representation for the first meeting, which may be changed or modified, if thought best, after the organization. You may rest assured that the Committee have done everything in their power to obtain from the officers of the various societies a free expression of their views.

You will sign the enclosed Call, and return the same at your earliest convenience to this office. As soon thereafter as practicable, the announcement will be officially made.

We have the honor to be, sirs,

Very truly yours,

ROBERT S. NEWTON, M.D.
J. M. F. BROWNE, M.D.
P. A. MORROW, M.D.

THE CALL.

We, the undersigned officers of the several State Eclectic Medical Societies and Colleges of the United States, acting by the direction and with the approval of those societies and institutions, do hereby announce that a National Convention of Eclectic Physicians will assemble in the city of Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday, the 27th day of September, 1870, and remain in session for three days. Each State Society of the New School of Medicine is authorized and requested to appoint six regular delegates and six delegates at large to said Convention; and each Eclectic Medical College two regular delegates and two delegates at large, as aforesaid. The purpose of this Convention is to organize an Association which shall comprise all physicians of the New School on the Western Continent.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York.

ALEXANDER WILDER, M.D., President.
R. J. BURTON, M.D., Vice President.
J. M. COMINS, M.D., Recording Secretary.
J. EDWIN DANELSON, M.D., Corresponding Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Maine.

JOHN PARKER, M.D. President.
STEPHEN C. LIBBY, M.D., Vice President.
RICHARD MACE, M.D., Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Connecticut.

C. C. CLARK, M.D., President.
C. H. S. DAVIS, M.D., Vice President.
N. D. HODGKINS, M.D., Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Indiana.

L. ABBOTT, M.D., President.
H. D. PRUNK, M.D., First Vice President.
L. FRAZEE, M.D., Second Vice President.
J. T. RIDGEWAY, M.D., Recording Secretary.
H. LONG, M.D. Corresponding Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Minnesota.

E. M. MOREHOUSE, M.D., President.
U. S. CULVER, M.D., Vice President.
A. T. ELLIOTT, M.D., Secretary pro tem.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Iowa.

J. R. DUNCAN, M.D., President.
J. R. FOSTER, M.D., Vice President.
A. H. GRIDLEY, M.D., Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New Hampshire.

A. J. FLAGG, M.D., President.
N. P. TAPLIN, M.D., Vice President.
J. M. BISHOP, M.D., Recording Secretary.
W. C. CALE, M.D., Corresponding Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of Illinois.

H. D. MORGAN, M.D., President.
H. W. HOUSER, M.D., First Vice President.
L. C. WASHBURN, M.D., Second Vice President.
WM. H. DAVIS, M.D., Recording Secretary.
A. L. CLARK, M.D., Corresponding Secretary.

Officers of the Eclectic Medical College of the City of New York.

ALEXANDER WILDER, M.D., President Board of Trustees.
ROBERT S. NEWTON, M.D., President Faculty.
PAUL W. ALLEN, M.D., Secretary Faculty.

Officers of the Bennett College of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery.

L. S. MAJOR, M.D. President Board of Trustees.
A. L. CLARK, M.D., President Faculty.
G. C. CHRISTIAN, M.D., Secretary Faculty.

THE MEETING AT CHICAGO.

THE delegates to the National Eclectic Medical Convention met at Crosby's Music Hall on the 27th of September, 1870, pursuant to call, when the meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Dr. H. D. Garrison, of Chicago.

Prof. R. S. Newton, of New York, was elected temporary Chairman, G. W. Pickerell, of Indiana, temporary Secretary, and J. W. Johnson, of Connecticut, assistant Secretary.

Dr. Kendrick, of Indiana, opened with prayer.

Prof. R. S. Newton, Chairman *pro tem.*, then made the following opening address:

GENTLEMEN: I am glad of the opportunity for meeting with you to-day. We have assembled here for the purpose of organizing a National Eclectic Medical Association. I am glad to see so many States represented. There never was a time or period in the history of Eclecticism when it was more important to perfect this organization than the present. There never was a period in its history when it required more energy, more determination, and a greater fixedness of purpose, in order to secure success. There are many persons connected with the different branches of the profession who are looking upon us to-day, hoping that our enterprise may not be accomplished. We have some in our own ranks who have failed to meet with us, feeling that we were not strong enough to accomplish the object in view. These are unwilling to act, for the want of decision of character and strength of mind to meet opposition or to labor for success.

Let nothing arise in this convention, in its discussions, which would be likely to lead to discord, under any circumstances. Let nothing but harmony and peace prevail here [Cheers.] If this principle is adopted and acted upon, nothing but success will crown this effort. There are many here who have labored long and hard for its success. They are not tired yet, nor are they disposed to give up the effort. I agree to join hands with you to-day in carrying on this work for the perfecting of this organization, — in the establishment of American Eclecticism in medicine upon a basis that nothing can destroy, either its effect or its reputation. [Cheers.]

A committee on credentials, consisting of the following-named gentlemen, was then appointed:

J. R. Duncan, of Ohio; W. H. Davis, of Illinois; A. F. Elliott, of Minnesota; W. H. Kendrick, of Indiana; E. M. Shaw, of Michigan; J. W. Johnson, of Connecticut; H. E. Firth, of New York; O. E. Newton, of Ohio; E. W. Stevens, of Wisconsin.

On motion the following-named gentlemen were appointed a committee on permanent organization: B. J. Stow, of New York; R. A. Gunn, of Illinois; J. M. Youart, of Indiana; M. S. Bronson, of Pennsylvania; H. S. Potter, of Ohio; R. A. Beach, of Michigan; E. Snell, of Minnesota; M. R. Teegarden, of Wisconsin; William Molesworth, of Iowa; H. I. Fisk, of Connecticut; J. M. Comins, of New York.

The committee on credentials having retired to prepare their report, the convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole on speeches.

H. D. Garrison, of Illinois, being called upon, said that Eclecticism was flourishing in Chicago at the present time; so much so, that its doctors were literally boiling over with Eclecticism. But the past, or early history of Eclecticism, was not like this. The cause was started here under great difficulties. He well remembered the first meeting of Eclectic physicians here, when but few persons were present. But the matter of Eclecticism was talked over, and hope was expressed for the future of the cause. Then the members of the New School were almost ashamed of confessing their connection with it, but none need be ashamed of it now, — at least not in this city. They hope in the future to go on and preserve their name in honor. He felt that above all things a national organization was needed, — a national organization that would represent over ten thousand Eclectic physicians, — an organization that would give to the New School a power that nothing else would. As yet there had been no definite organization of the members of the New School. There were small societies scattered over the States, but hitherto there has been no central organization.

Other speeches of a similar character followed.

The Committee on Credentials came in at this time and reported progress. The following persons were accepted as delegates:

Minnesota — E. M. Morehouse, E. Snell, A. F. Elliott.

Iowa — J. R. Duncan, W. Roberts, W. Molesworth, H. Moe, J. A. McKlveen, C. E. Witham, and W. Ross.

Illinois — H. Wohlgemuth, J. B. Lewis, H. D. Garrison, W. R. Smith, L. C. Washburn, and A. L. Clark.

Bennett Medical College — H. N. Young and H. K. Whitford.

Indiana — W. H. Kendrick, G. W. Pickerell, J. M. Youart, J. G. Van De Walker, M. Jay, and L. Frazee.

Michigan — R. A. Beach, L. D. Ford, and E. M. Shaw.

Connecticut — J. W. Johnson, S. B. Munn, H. I. Fisk, J. H. Robinson, and O. H. Jewell.

New-York Eclectic Medical College — J. M. Comins.

New York — R. S. Newton, B. J. Stow, H. E. Firth, W. Jones, and W. Hayden.

Electic Medical Review — P. A. Morrow, and Alexander Wilder.

Chicago Medical Times — R. A. Gunn, and J. E. Hurlbut.

Ohio — O. E. Newton, and H. S. Potter.

Wisconsin — E. W. Stevens, M. R. Teegarden, J. W. Hamilton, and A. J. Leslie.

Pennsylvania — M. S. Bronson.

It was moved by G. W. Pickerell, of Indiana, and seconded by H. E. Firth, of New York, that all Eclectic physicians be permitted to report to the Committee on Credentials, and, if reported on favorably, that they be admitted as members of this Convention.

H. I. Fisk, of Connecticut, opposed the motion on the ground that the eastern states had appointed only six delegates, and would therefore be debarred from equal representation with states nearer Chicago.

R. S. Newton and R. A. Gunn spoke in favor of the motion, urging the importance of a large representation, as better calculated to advance the interests of Eclecticism.

The question was called for, and, on being put to the Convention, the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Committee on Credentials again retired, when all present who had not reported to said Committee were requested to do so at once.

After an absence of half an hour, the Committee again returned to the hall, and recommended the following persons for membership: L. R. Brigham, B. B. Ussher, and M. M. Miles, Aurora, Ills.; S. L. Clark, Lawrence, Ills.: S. F. Wehr, Okaw, Ills.; V. A. Baker, Adrian, Mich.; A. A. Wood, Jefferson, N. Y.; Franklin Chavett, Chicago, Ills.; W. F. Bayne, Macomb, Ills.; Jas. S. Cowdrey, Lafayette, Ind.; A. B. Wescott, and H. K. Stratford, Chicago, Ills.; J. S. Burridge, Erie, Ills.; William Flory, South Bend, Ind.; D. H. Morgan, Russelville, Ills.; C. H. Doss, Manchester, Ills.; J. M. Bowers, Chicago, Ills.; P. J. Wood, Meriden, Ills.; Z. Waters, Bloomington, Ills.; A. Bowman, White Hall, Ills.; R. W. Hathaway, Chicago, Ills.; R. H. Reece, Joliet, Ills.; T. A. Caldwell, Manchester, Ills.; W. M. Huston, Blandonsville, Ills.; Geo. Kirkpatrick, La Harpe, Ills.; J. A. Hall, Danville, Ills.; R. R Hall, Peru, Ind.; H. Olin, Ottawa, Ills.; S. K. Whitford, Elgin, Ills.; H. J. Ellis, Wheeler, Ind.

After the report was accepted, the Committee on Permanent Organization retired.

During the absence of this Committee several gentlemen present were called upon, all of whom expressed their pleasure at seeing so large an attendance, and having such assurance of success.

The subject of the cause of the changing in color of the hair being incidentally introduced by one of the members of the Convention, the Chairman stated that the use of hair dyes had resulted, in his own professional experience, in many terrible cases of disease, among others in paralysis. But lately, a young lady in New York, the heiress to several millions, had died from a disease resulting from the use of cosmetics.

The Committee on Permanent Organization having returned to the

hall, the Chairman signified that the Convention was ready for their report, when the Chairman of the Committee read the following:

COMMITTEE ROOM, *Sept.* 27, 1870.

The Committee was called to order by the appointment of Dr. J. M. Youart, of Indiana, chairman.

On motion, J. M. Comins, of New York, was elected secretary.

Moved by S. H. Potter, seconded by H. I. Fisk, and resolved — That we proceed to an informal ballot for President.

The ballot resulted as follows:

J. W. Johnson,	4
W. H. Kendrick,	3
R. S. Newton,	2
R. A. Gunn,	2

The formal ballot being called for, J. W. Johnson, of Connecticut, was unanimously nominated.

The result of all the nominations was as follows:

For President — J. W. Johnson, of Connecticut.
For First Vice-President — S. H. Potter, of Ohio.
For Second Vice-President — James S. Cowdrey, of Indiana.
For Third Vice-President — William Molesworth, of Iowa.
For Secretary — R. A. Gunn, of Illinois.
For Assistant Secretary — J. E. Hurlbut, of Illinois.
For Corresponding Secretary — J. M. Comins, of New York.
For Treasurer — Benjamin J. Stow, of New York.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. COMINS, *Secretary Committee.*

Moved by O. E. Newton, of Ohio, seconded by E. W. Stevens, of Wisconsin, and resolved — That the report be accepted, and the Committee discharged.

Moved by A. L. Clark, of Illinois, seconded by E. M. Morehouse, of Minn., and resolved — That the gentlemen reported by the Committee be unanimously declared elected the permanent officers for the ensuing year.

Moved by R. A. Gunn, seconded by H. I. Fisk, and resolved — That the Chairman *pro tem.* be directed to escort the President-elect to the chair. The other officers were also escorted to their respective places.

On taking his seat, the President, J. W. Johnson, spoke as follows:

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION: I do not propose at this late hour in the day, when I presume every gentleman is desirous of taking refreshments, to occupy your attention for any length of time. Indeed, if I were disposed to do so, I feel myself too much overpow-

ered by this expression of your confidence, and the high honor which you have conferred upon me in electing me to preside over your organization as its chief permanent officer. I will therefore simply thank you. [Cheers.]

Moved by J. R. Duncan, of Iowa, seconded by R. S. Newton, and resolved, — That the President appoint a committee of five to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, with instructions to report to-morrow morning.

Committee — J. R. Duncan, Iowa; H. D. Garrison, Illinois; R. S. Newton, New York; S. H. Potter, Ohio; W. H. Kendrick, Indiana.

The President then read invitations from the Douglas Observatory, the Academy of Science, and from J. F. Aitken, proprietor of the Opera House Art Gallery, for the members of the Convention to visit their respective buildings during their stay in Chicago, at such time as the members may designate.

Moved by W. Molesworth, of Ohio, seconded by W. Wohlgemuth, of Illinois, and resolved, — That the invitations be accepted, and votes of thanks extended to those tendering the invitations.

Moved by H. D. Garrison, of Illinois, seconded by Milton Jay, of Illinois, and resolved, — That R. S. Newton be invited to deliver a popular address on Wednesday evening, and that B. B. Ussher be requested to read his original poem, entitled, "The Doctor's Dream."

The Convention then adjourned, to meet again on Wednesday morning, the 28th inst., at 9 o'clock.

Note. — At 3 o'clock, p. m., the delegates visited the Academy of Science, and at 8 o'clock, p. m., the Douglas Observatory, at both of which places they were highly entertained.

Second Day's Proceedings — Wednesday, September 28.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock, a. m., by President Johnson, in the chair.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The President then spoke as follows:

Gentlemen of the Convention: I stated yesterday what I wish to reiterate to-day, that for the unexpected and, I may say, unsolicited honor which you were pleased to confer upon me, in selecting me to preside over the deliberations of this National Convention of Eclectic Physicians, I feel profoundly grateful. It is needless for me to state before this intelligent audience that the success of this movement at this time is of momentous importance to the cause of liberal medicine. The necessity of individual and concerted action on the part of not only the members of this Convention, but also of every friend of the cause

which we advocate, and which we believe to be for the great good of afflicted and suffering humanity, will also, I trust, suggest itself to every believer and advocate of the American practice of liberal medicine. The rapid strides which our cherished system has made in the past few decades has astonished its advocates, and won the admiration of the world. I might state of the progress in different sections of the east, west, north and south, that there has been a general dissemination of the principles of Eclecticism. No geographical lines have limited or circumscribed its growth, but its diffusion has been general, till more than ten thousand physicians are to-day engaged in a remunerative and successful practice under the broad banner of Eclecticism. In conclusion, let me enjoin upon all, and upon you in particular, to see to it that no sectional influence, no rivalry or jealousy shall exist, unless it be a rivalry to see who can excel in the great work of fully establishing and perpetuating this national organization which has been started under such favorable auspices. Let us try to emulate one another in pushing forward the cause of medical reform, until the broad principles of eclectic medicine shall drive all medical bigotry and exclusiveness from the land.

By the election of the President a vacancy was created in the Committee on Credentials, which was filled by the Chair appointing S. B. Munn, of Connecticut.

On motion, it was resolved, — That an invitation be extended through the Press, to the citizens of Chicago to be present at the public meeting to be held this (Wednesday) evening, in the hall.

Dr. Molesworth, of Iowa, being called upon, spoke briefly as follows:

He would not, he said, acknowledge any one State as more zealous in the cause of Eclecticism than Iowa. Three years ago they had no State organization, but with some difficulty succeeded in forming such an association. The first call was answered by only two persons. But there is no such thing as failure in Eclecticism. From this small beginning they had established a very flourishing organization in the State. In the city of Des Moines, where he first entered practice, there was no other Eclectic; but in less than five years the very men who refused to counsel with him, came and begged him to send them the patients that he turned away. He now knew of no Eclectic physician in that county who did not have a good and lucrative practice. The Allopathic school represented them as Thomsonians, steam-doctors, ect. etc., and thus the people were kept in ignorance. If the people knew what Allopathy and Homœopathy consisted of, they would not trust their dear ones in their hands. State societies should undertake some manner of enlightening the people on this subject. [Applause.]

The Committee on Credentials reported progress, recommending the following persons for membership:

John McEwen, J. C. Spray, and J. F. Cook, of Chicago, Ills.; C. D. Thompson, Oil City, Pa.; Helen E. Underwood, Chicago, Ills.; J. M. Harding, Oil City, Pa.; Joseph House, Marengo, Ills.; A. G. Tillotson, Tollostone, Ind.; H. I. Holmes, Homer, Michigan; W. C. Paramore, Valparaiso, Ind.

Moved by Milton Jay, of Illinois, seconded by E. Snell, of Minnesota,

and resolved, — That the report be received, and that the persons recommended, be admitted to membership.

R. S. Newton, from the Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws, spoke at some length of a former National Eclectic Medical Association, and the great good done by it, and then presented the Committee's report on the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, the articles of which were severally read and adopted *seriatim*.

[For Constitution and By-Laws see page 11.]

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by S. H. Potter, of Ohio, and resolved, — That a Committee be appointed to draft a Code of Ethics. The following Committee was thereupon appointed :

R. S. Newton, New York ; S. H. Potter, Ohio ; H. D. Garrison, Illinois ; G. W. Pickerell, Indiana ; C. E. Witham, Iowa ; J. M. Harding, Pennsylvania ; H. I. Fisk, Connecticut.

Moved by A. L. Clark, Illinois, seconded by R. S. Newton, New York, and resolved, — That a committee of five be appointed to report upon the place for holding the next Annual Meeting of the Convention.

The Committee was appointed by nomination, as follows :

A. L. Clark, Illinois ; O. E. Newton, Ohio ; J. M. Youart, Indiana ; J. M. Comins, New York, and L. D. Ford, Michigan.

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by E. W. Stevens, of Wisconsin, and resolved, — That a certificate of membership, signed by the President and Secretary, be issued to each member of the Association.

On motion, it was resolved, — That the Secretary be authorized to prepare said certificate, the same to be a lithograph on parchment paper.

On motion, the Association adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

—

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order by President Johnson, in the chair.

Dr. S. B. Munn, of Connecticut, presented to the Convention a valuable pathological specimen, consisting of large hydatids, which had been vomited by a man who had been complaining for many months of severe derangement of the stomach. Many points connected with this form of disease were discussed by several gentlemen of the Convention.

The Committee on Location, through their chairman, Dr. A. L. Clark, reported the following :

RESOLVED, That the next annual meeting of this Association be held in the city of New York, on the first Wednesday of October, 1871.

The report and recommendation were adopted.

Dr. Robert S. Newton offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

RESOLVED, That a committee of three be appointed as a Publishing Committee, to act in concert with the Executive Committee of this Association, with power to collate and edit such parts of proceedings of and the papers read at the meetings of the National Eclectic Medical Association, held from 1848 to 1856, and that these, with the entire proceedings of and the papers read or submitted at this annual session, be published as soon as the matter can be prepared.

On motion, the following committee was appointed : Drs. Robert S. Newton, Alexander Wilder, and Milton Jay.

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by H. D. Garrison, of Illinois, and

RESOLVED, That the President appoint a Committee to prepare and report at our next annual meeting a National Eclectic Medical Pharmacopœia.

RESOLVED, That this Association authorize the Secretary to copy-right the following title-page of this pharmacopœia, that it may have and own this as a trademark : "The American Eclectic Pharmacopœia, authorized by the National Eclectic Medical Association, Chicago, Ills., 1870."

Eclecticism in Brooklyn. — Dr. H. E. Firth, of the Brooklyn Academy of Eclectic Medicine, read an able paper on the history of Eclecticism in Brooklyn.

The following papers were presented by title :

1. What is the Americaa Eclectic System of Medicine?
2. Why Eclectic Physicians do not Bleed.
3. American Eclectic Pharmacy.

[For these papers, see pp. 59—79.]

On motion, the Association adjourned, to meet again at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

EVENING SESSION — EIGHT O'CLOCK.

The Evening Session being devoted to purely literary subjects, and an invitation to the public having been extended, the hall was well filled. The first exercise was the recitation of the following Poem by the author.

A DOCTOR'S DREAM.

BY B. B. USSHER, M. D.

A LOBSTER supper, ere one goes to bed,
Creates strange fancies in a weary head,
And when it's coupled with a whiskey sling
It keeps one's fancy hours on the wing;
Just top this off with corn-starch ice cream,
And you are ready for a lengthy dream.
This is advice from something of a scholar,
Take it, you're welcome—never mind the dollar.
Experience teaches, so at least THEY say,
Then please excuse this trifle of display;
I know I'm young, with little facial hair,
And very little of the "mildewed air."
Not very musty, if the truth were told,
Though often rusty, 'cause I'm getting old.
Now don't get mad, you men with silver threads,
Hailing each other on your polished heads;
I know I'm young, and youth will lack discretion,
E'en though he be a DOCTOR by profession;
And, by the by, what fools the public are,
They take for diamonds what is only spar.
The doting sage, with student equal green,
Around the bedside oftentimes is seen,
Age nods his head and puckers up his lip,
Youth leans his forehead on his finger tip,
Both seem so wise that people think they know
More than the common folk that round us go.
The fact is this, the sage long since forgot
That which the youth, as yet, has learned not;
The STUDENT studies till his hair is gray,
His brain is sharpest in his life's noon-day.
The aged man mumbles, "I'm too old to read,
For sixty years I used to cup and bleed,
I got my sheep-skin, deemed that I was through,
But now I find disease and treatment new.
I've been asleep, like Dr. Rip Van Winkle,
And wakened up to get the latest wrinkle."
You'll likely ask what makes the fellow ramble,
And bore us all with such a long preamble?
I've been digesting Lobster, Sling and Cream,
And now I'm ready to begin my dream.
I fell asleep in dreaming, this is fashion,
A wakeful dreamer puts one in a passion.
An instant more and I was in a hall,
With scores of niches hewn in the wall,
And each one filled with some old god of science
That seemed to set his neighbor at defiance;
Man needs ME most, said each one in a breath,
"I'll answer that!" I looked, and there stood
Death.

Excuse me sir, if I was too abrupt,
But oftentimes, these old "coves'" lies corrupt
Some honest mind, that, seeking for the truth,
Comes here as trusting as to Boaz Ruth.
Here is the one that man requires most,
Who patient waits forever at his post,
The God of Physic, well known by fame,
Old Esculapius—Mr. What's-your name.

ESCULAPIUS.

Forego his name, just tell me his profession,
A Doctor?—good, I like the man's expression,
He's just in time to hear a funny suit,
The different Pathies in a new dispute.
They've made me judge, so Mr. Death, good bye,
And while I'm gone you'd better mind your eye.
I've whipped you often in some former tussle,
Our fights were tough with mighty little bustle.
You've made poor man a wretched abject slave,
But I'm your boss, so see that you behave.
Now Doc. I'm with you, here we go:
Now then, you "gallipots," look out below.
With this we started like a shooting star,
And rode as easy as a palace car,
And only stopped to take one traveler in,
I guess you know him, Juniperis, Gin.
How far we went, nor yet how long the time,
Has little business in this lenghty rhyme;
Forgive a poet's license that I crave,
And dream yourselves arrived in Physic's cave;
The old man seated on a monster throne,
Superbly trimmed with human skin and bone,
The walls tricked out with lizards, toads and snakes,
And lots of bark to drive away the shakes;
Pincers and forceps, with the strangest knives,
By doctors used, to shorten human lives.
Just then I heard a most unearthly noise,
As though 'twere made by some unruly boys;
When in there stepped the strangest, queerest crew,
That ever passed within a mortal's view.
I saw before me, each in grand array,
The various Pathies of the present day;
Each one discoursing on his favorite theories,
Answering inquiries by peculiar queries.
At last my friend that sat upon the throne,
Requested silence in stentorian tone,
And bade them cease unscientific banter,
And hear Similia Simil. Curantur,
The well-known champion of the sugar pill,
Which if he don't make well, will ne'er make ill.
I choose him first, and in extenuation,
Will bid him dose with great attenuation;
For dose it must be to a seeking mind,
To sit for hours winnowing the wind.

HOMŒOPATHY.

I did not know that I was summoned hither,
Beneath your judgeship's sarcasms to wither;
I will not keep you waiting in suspense,
Before such audience I'll make no defense.
The ladies love my scented sugar pills,
They always cure imaginary ills,
The darling sick ones hate your pesky stuff,
While mine, you'd think they'd never get enough;
They may be brainless, but their dollars tell,
So now, old Physic, bid me say farewell.

ESCULAPIUS.

Aye, fare ye well, but mind, you'll come to grief,
I feel quite certain that your reign is brief;
Your brainless patients, when they get "their rights,"
Will soon put out ye Homœopathic LIGHTS.
When sick or lame, to you no matter which,
They'll scarcely bear to hear they've got the itch,
And if your patient should be very stout,
I should not wonder if she scratched you out.
Now HYDROPATHY hurry up, be quick,
Cold water's good, if not piled on too thick,
I like it well to lavish on my skin,
But for my stomach deem it rather thin.

HYDROPATHY.

Good Physic, thank you for your partial puff,
I know you like my treatment well enough.
I always mix the water with good diet
And keep my patients free from wine and riot:
Good air and rubbing, also perfect rest,
Bring back the health, of all God's gifts the best.

ESCULAPIUS.

Well, you may go, Electropathy too,
We're posted well on what you both can do.
Good in your place, you into error fall,
When either hints that he can cure at all.
Dame Nature acts obedient to our God,
And you can only boast, you bear a hod.
Now then, old school, again you have the floor,
I'll take a snooze; just wake me if I snore.
I've heard you often, therefore what's the use
Of listening to your witless, stale abuse
Of other schools who have a different creed;
Now don't disturb me; if you wish, proceed.

ALLOPATHY.

I own, good Physic, I have nothing new,
Except perhaps an item on Buchu,
So go asleep, whilst I these varlets tell,
A few good points in my pet Calomel,
And also what I've found a great assister

To cups and lancet—pray don't laugh—a blister.
Just take Pneumonia, that's a bad disease,
I'll thank you, gents, to stop that grinning, please.
Of Calomel, take ten or fifteen grains,
A little opium, if it overstrains,
And should the pulse give any fitful bounces
Just tap the veins from ten to thirty ounces,
And if the breathing be oppressed and dry,
Just use wet cups and after Spanish fly.
The patient bad, the remedies increase,
Unless you're baffled by the man's decease.
I find this treatment answers many ills,
Though now and then I order Jalap pills.
I hope you'll take my practice as your rule,
And bear in mind that mine's the oldest school.
If you have strayed, you'd better hasten back,
Or else I'll brand you as a wretched quack.
My sheep must stay forever in the fold,
I cannot hunt them, as I'm growing old.

ECLECTICISM.

Pray, old friend Physic, may I speak this once
In answer to that old conceited dunce?
You give consent; 'tis true I am a visitor,
I wish on him I was a grand inquisitor.
I'd snub the rack, nor e'en the pincers need,
My tortures would be blister, cup and bleed,
And if he would not then his follies tell
I'd try his pet, his own dear Calomel.
You've heard Eclectics lauded on the earth,
Although they claim no very ancient birth:
They are the workers, Allopaths the drones,
The living muscle on old necrosed bones.
But time is rotting out this aged sequester,
And see the Old School, how the folks detest her.
The much-used lancet slumbers in its case,
To bleed or blister would incur disgrace,
Ant. 'Tart.' to vomit seldom comes in play,
Like every dog it seems it's had its day.
No longer beds are hung in colored cloth
To quell the fervor of a fever's wrath;
No soups are made from spotted lizards' tails,
Nor do we use hot poultices of snails,
Nor swallow frogs to eat up rotten liver,
Nor blister folks for every ague shiver.
All these reforms by Eclectics made,
Subserve to put the Allopaths in shade;
They've palmed their brass upon the public, so
That it takes time for even brains to show.
For scores of years we all have heard them tell
The wonders they've worked with calomel;
How livers lazy, making scanty bile,
By ten grain doses worked in gallant style.
Whate'er the shape was taken by disease

This wondrous calomel was sure to please;
'Twas often hinted that the drug's a bore
That makes a patient's mouth so horrid sore;
And since we've robbed it of its patron's cloak,
Its boasted virtue has gone up in smoke.
To Scotland's Bennett be our praises due,
Nor him alone, but all his colleagues too;
To great reformers we should bend a knee,
They draw the fangs of bare-faced bigotry.
One moment more, in fact I hardly need
So long a time to tell our simple creed;
We cull from all, no matter what the school,
And pay no homage to old fogy rule.
We only use what practice proves the best,
Adopting nothing without ample test;
There is an item that my mind disturbs,
Connected with the title roots and herbs;
The Allopath who mates us with this class,
Of flagrant quacks proclaims himself an ASS.
And now friend Physic, 'ere I bid adieu,
I have a notion to suggest to you;
'Tis whispered round upon the upper earth,
That Allopathy's failing since my birth.
I see he's looking very far from well,
How he'll last 'tis rather hard to tell;
But when Dame Nature takes away his wind,
I'll give a trifle if you'll have him skinned;
And call attention to his shriveled hide,
When o'er the Pathies you again preside.
Review his life as warning to the wise—
By Jove, he's going, even now he dies!
Adieu again, I must transport my bones,
Beyond the region of his dying groans,
And when he's dead, send in the skinner's bill,
I'll pay it prompt, if it should skin the till!
At home again, lodged safely in my bed,
Those wretched groans kept ringing in my head.
The noise awoke me from my dreamy frolic,
To find that I was groaning with the colic;
I found the cause that started me to dream,
Was nothing more than Lobster, Gin and Cream.

Prof. R. S. Newton, of New York, then addressed the meeting, substantially as follows :

He appeared under somewhat peculiar circumstances. He was requested by the Association which had just been organized to deliver an address. All knew the interest which he had in Eclecticism. Like religion, which had its sects, so had medicine its sects. The medical man did not hold the same position in regard to life as did the members of other professions. His life was a life of continuous toil and self-denial. His time was devoted to the welfare and comfort of his patients. Those who entered the medical profession with the idea that it would bring them wealth, and fame, and social position, and who entered the profession with that idea alone, greatly misunderstood what the duties of the members of the profession consisted of. What was a true doctor? He was a man whom society could appreciate, because they knew that he was well acquainted with his duties, and because they knew that he was willing to attend to those duties faithfully and self-denyingly. Men trusted their lives to doctors. They trusted everything that was really worthy to the doctor. Yet people in general hardly appreciated the position of the doctor. Very few knew in what he deserved praise. The medical science had done in the past like other sciences. Sometimes it had progressed; sometimes retrograded. Some worked hard for its improvement, and to discover new remedies; others had been willing to sit idly by, satisfied with what was, or to let others do the work. Medical science had frequently developed itself into extreme doctrines. Some fought for and believed in vegetable cures alone, others in something else. None, hardly, would receive all that was good. The result had been that those branches of the profession which had for the time being the greatest power by having the greatest number of members, had secured the passage of laws which acted unequally and unjustly; keeping down those who desired to work liberally, and to accept all that was good. In this manner it was so arranged that no one who had not received his diploma from some institute which these laws named and provided, should be allowed to practice medicine, no matter how intelligent he might be, no matter how well he might be acquainted with the science and art of medicine. But these very martyrs to unjust laws had taken the position of reformers. The very acts of injustice had turned themselves into arguments for the new and more liberal creed, which said, let every one practice who can prove his ability to do so. The new system threw aside the old doctrines of bleeding and "no water." They did not believe in taking sixty ounces of blood from a person, as had many times been done. But there was a general medical intelligence spreading throughout the land, which would no longer submit to be bled to death, or to be deprived of cold water. Not long ago, if any one said that certain well-known diseases could be treated without bleeding, that man would have been laughed at. But times have altered. Many medical universities in Europe had laid aside entirely the use of calomel and the practice of bleeding patients till they were turned into mere mummies. So with mercury and other things which had been solely depended upon by the old physicians. Once if patients would not submit to these remedies, they went away indignant. But now they were willing to treat their patients in another way if they would not submit to the old remedies, because they knew if they did not, their patients would go to the doctors of some other school of medicine, who would. These doctors no longer refused to use the newly-discovered remedies, the remedies that Eclecticism had introduced to the world. They were beginning to accept the remedies, and insert them in their new books on medicine. Why was it that the eclectic physicians had discovered so many new and valuable remedies? It was because they were ever willing to accept and use whatever proved itself to be good, and to be worthy of use. Practice and experiment had proved the uselessness of many old remedies. Some remedies, which it had been asserted and long believed were the only remedies that would cure certain diseases, had been proved not to have the slightest influence, one way or another, in those diseases.

Eclectics were not empirics; they were medical men. They learned from all the lights of the profession. They were willing to learn from every doctor, and from every system of medicine. They did not say that all that was old was bad, and were as willing to learn

from the past as from the present, to learn from the works of other men as from the works of their own. They would accept good wherever it could be found.

There was no doubt that tens of thousands of men had been murdered by too large doses of calomel, rhubarb, camphor, antimony, and blood-letting. Many of the greatest men of the country had been sacrificed in order to adhere to the doctrine that the treatment should be regular. General Washington, when in his last illness, had had between 80 and 90 ounces of blood taken from him and filled with immense doses of calomel and the "regular medicines," and had finally been forced to exclaim to his tormentors, "Let me die in peace." So it had been with General Harrison. Byron said to his friend when he was on his death bed, "They have mistaken my case, Fletcher: they have bled me to death."

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Third Day's Proceedings — Thursday, September 29.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock, A. M., by President Johnson, in the chair.

Reports of Committees being called for, the Committee on Ethics presented their report on a Code, which was taken up and adopted by the Association *seriatim.*

[For the Code, as adopted, see p. 14.]

S. H. Potter, of Ohio, offered the following:

Resolved, — That this Association appreciates the meritorious labors of the authors of our eclectic medical books, already published, and also the self-sacrificing and laudable exertions of the editors and publishers of our medical periodicals, and feel grateful to both classes of these worthy pioneers in medical reform.

Resolved, — That while we accord our grateful acknowledgments for the same, we most respectfully suggest, and earnestly insist, that greater care be exercised in compiling standard works in the future, and a nicer discrimination be made in the original and selected matter of our periodical literature.

Dr. Comins, of New York, paid a high eulogy to the standing of the periodical literature of the profession. He was followed in a similar vein by Dr. Molesworth, of Ohio, and Dr. Gunn, of Illinois, editor of the Chicago *Medical Times*, and others. All urged upon their brethren the necessity of heartily supporting the periodical literature of Eclecticism, and assisting by contribution to extend the principles of the school, not only among physicians, but among the people all over the land.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Moved by E. W. Stevens, of Wisconsin, seconded by E. Snell, of Minnesota, and resolved, — That the following sentence of Latin be adopted as expressive of the basis of Eclectic practice, and used as the motto of the Association: *Vires Vitales Sustiner*, (sustain vital force.)

Moved by J. S. Van De Walker, of Indiana, seconded by R. R. Hall,

of Indiana, and resolved, — That all female graduates of Eclectic Medical Colleges be recognized by their proper cognomen, in connection with their professional title.

A. L. Clark, on behalf of the Faculty of Bennett Medical College, extended an invitation to the Association to visit the college building, in the afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

Invitation accepted, and a vote of thanks returned to the Faculty for the same.

Milton Jay, on behalf of the Eclectic physicians of Chicago, extended an invitation to the visiting delegates to participate in a Lake excursion in the afternoon, and a social re-union in the evening.

Invitations accepted, and a vote of thanks returned.

Moved by J. M. Comins, of New York, seconded by W. H. Kendrick, of Indiana, and resolved, — That, inasmuch as the delegations to this Convention from the several States, under the original call for twelve delegates from each State, are not complete, those members present be empowered to fill their delegations to the number of twelve.

The following was presented by J. S. Van De Walker, of Indiana:

WHEREAS, — It has become a prevailing custom for druggists to prescribe medicine over their counters for those who apply to them for relief, in order to save the fee that would properly belong to the physicians, therefore be it

RESOLVED, — That this practice is an outrage committed against medical practitioners, and detrimental to the welfare of the community, and that all physicians should kindly present this matter to their respective druggists, and request its discontinuance, and in case they do not listen to this appeal, it becomes the duty of the practitioner to withdraw his patronage.

[Carried.]

Moved by O. E. Newton, of Ohio, seconded by S. H. Potter, of Ohio, and resolved, — That the committees on the various departments of Medical Science be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Moved by R. A. Gunn, of Illinois, seconded by R. S. Newton, of New York, and resolved, — That physicians whose names are proposed for membership, and vouched for by any one present, may become members of this Association after being reported on favorably by the Committee on Credentials, by the proposer signing their names to the constitution, and paying the regular fee of the Association.

The Committee on Credentials retired, and, after a few minutes' absence, reported the following named persons for membership:

John Stowe, Lawrence, Mass.; Pierce Tyrell, Elgin, Ills.; E. C. Gile, Cambridge, Minn.; Maria B. Hayden, N. Y.; Walter D. Jones, Newburgh, N. Y.; Elias Williams and W. Covington, Pleasantville, Iowa.; Alexander Wilder and P. A. Morrow, New York city.; L. Stanton, Copenhagen, N. Y.; L. B. Sanders and Milton Clark, Bronson, Mich.

Moved by S. H. Potter, of Ohio, seconded by G. W. Pickerell, of Indiana, and resolved, — That the Secretary be empowered to settle all accounts for the Asssociation, and report in full at the next meeting.

A letter was read from John Stowe, M.D., of Lawrence, Mass., expressing his regret at being unable to be present at the Convention. The following is a copy:

LAWRENCE, Mass., Sept. 26, 1870.

R. A. GUNN, M.D., Corresponding Sec. Ex. Com.
N. E. M. Convention.

MY DEAR SIR: Your kind letter of cordial invitation to attend the National Eclectic Medical Convention at Chicago is before me. It would give me much pleasure to be with you, but circumstances beyond my control have made it inexpedient for me to do so; but I thank you for the invitation, and, through you, to the Convention send greeting. The humane cause in which you are engaged should enlist the sympathies and goodwill of every philanthropist and member of the profession; and I have no doubt that the great body of Eclectics, east as well as west, of whom you are but representatives, will be with you in spirit although unable to be present at your meeting, and be ready to hold up your hands and sustain your doings in permanently organizing our forces in a great National Convention, that shall better promote our interests and the cause of suffering humanity.

Yours for Eclecticism,

JOHN STOWE, M. D.

Moved by R. A. Gunn, of Illinois, seconded by H. Wohlgemuth, of Illinois, and resolved, — That votes of thanks be extended to the various railroads for their reduction of fares to delegates.

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by S. H. Potter, of Ohio, and resolved, — That a vote of thanks be extended to the Eclectic physicians of Chicago, for the liberal and substantial hospitality accorded to the visiting delegates.

Moved by O. E. Newton, of Ohio, seconded by H. I. Fisk, of Connecticut, and resolved, — That a vote of thanks be extended to the city Press and to the local agent of the Associated Press; also a special vote of thanks to the reporters of the city papers for their complete and correct reports of the sessions of this Convention.

Moved by G. W. Pickerell, of Indiana, seconded by J. S. Cowdrey, of Indiana, and resolved, — That a vote of thanks be extended to G. T. Shaw, Esq., of the Chicago *Medical Times*, for his efficient services as executive manager in arranging and carrying out the programme of exercises.

Votes of thanks were also extended to the President and Secretaries for their efficient services during the Convention.

President Johnson and Secretary Gunn responded in appropriate terms.

On motion, it was resolved, — That the Association do now adjourn, to meet in the city of New York on the first Wednesday of October, 1871.

J. W. JOHNSON, M. D., *President.*

R. A. GUNN, M. D., *Secretary.*

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LAKE EXCURSION.

In the afternoon, the members of the Convention and their ladies participated in a Lake excursion to the Crib and Hyde Park. The excursion was given by the Eclectic physicians of Chicago, and was a very pleasant affair, with the single exception of the fact that it was characterized by more "sea sickness" than usually attends a voyage across the Atlantic.

RE-UNION AT CROSBY'S MUSIC HALL—BANQUET AT THE ST. JAMES HOTEL.

The Eclectics of Chicago gave the visiting delegates a re-union at Crosby's Music Hall and a banquet at the St. James Hotel. The arrangements were complete, the music by Nevins and Dean's Band capital, and the supper superb.

Some two hundred ladies and gentlemen kept up the dance until about half-past ten o'clock,, when they adjourned to the St. James Hotel, where a fine supper was discussed.

At the close of the repast, Prof. R. A. Gunn, of Chicago, on behalf of the Illinois Eclectics, welcomed the delegates and guests in a neat speech. The Convention had been a complete success, he said, and he was not only glad to see such a large delegation present, but he was proud to see so many citizens of Chicago at the banqueting board, who had come forward, and by their presence and attentions had aided in showing proper respect to their visitors. A few years ago the West had only a few Eclectics ; now they are numbered by thousands.

Prof. Johnson, of Connecticut, the President of the Association, responded in fitting terms. The delegates, he said, were highly gratified with the hospitality extended to them. As much as he loved his native State, he was loath to leave Chicago; he was enamored of her growing greatness, and was more than astonished at her rapid strides

in many respects. He was from the "Nutmeg" State, which would hardly make a respectable door-yard for Illinois. The gentleman closed by saying a word in favor of the Chicago Press.

Prof. Robert S. Newton, of New York, was the next speaker. He spoke at length of the progress of Eclecticism. He thought he had never been in any place where there was so much elegance, so much beauty and so much grandeur to the acre, as in Chicago, and he did not believe there was such another place on the Continent. When this Convention was talked of it was urged that New York was the place to hold it, as its Press would do wonders for the enterprise; but he would ask any delegate what more could be done for them than the Chicago press had done? Nothing was left undone, and he thanked the Press for the courtesies extended.

Dr. Kendrick, of Indianapolis, and others, made happy speeches.

Dr. Comins, of New York, was next called upon. He said he could add nothing in the shape of a speech, but would give a sentiment, which was as follows:

"We have all come up to Jerusalem to help rebuild the house of the Lord, without hope of fee or reward. Although we are young, we have built a fort among CHRISTIAN men, lasting as time, upon the foundations of truth; carried up its walls with science, and spread our banner of free thought and investigation to the breeze. We have GARRISON-ed her strong, and, commanded by our MAJOR, we will defend her with our GUNNS."

The sentiment and allusion to prominent Illinois Eclectics were received with applause.

Returning to the hall, the dance was continued to a late hour.

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APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

IN accordance with a resolution passed during the session of the Association, the Executive Committee appointed the following committees to prepare Reports for the next meeting of the Association.

Committee on Theory and Practice of Medicine.

John Stowe, M. D.	Massachusetts.
W. H. Wohlgemuth, M. D.	Illinois.
S. H. Potter, M. D.	Ohio.

Chemistry.

J. M. Sanders, M. D.	New York.
H. D. Garrison, M. D.	Illinois.
W. H. Davis, M. D.	Illinois.

Surgery.

Robert S. Newton, M. D.	New York.
R. A. Gunn, M. D.	Illinois.
M. R. Teegarden, M. D.	Wisconsin.
H. N. Young, M. D.	Illinois.
J. W. Ellis, M. D.	Indiana.

Gynæcology.

C. Edwin Miles, M. D.	Massachusetts.
J. M. Comins, M. D.	New York.
W. Molesworth, M. D.	Iowa.
M. B. Hayden, M. D.	New York.
J. M. Youart, M. D.	Indiana.

Materia Medica.

J. S. Van De Walker, M. D.	Indiana.
J. F. Cook, M. D.	Illinois.
H. E. Firth, M. D.	New York.
J. B. Lewis, M. D.	Illinois.
Wm. Jones, M. D.	New York.

Eclecticism.

G. W. Pickerell, M. D.	Indiana.
Milton Jay, M. D.	Illinois.
C. D. Thompson, M. D.	Pennsylvania.
J. A. McKlveen, M. D.	Iowa.
H. K. Whitford, M. D.	Illinois.

Ophthalmic and Aural Surgery.

Edwin Freeman, M. D.	New York.
J. M. Youart, M. D.	Indiana.
H. Moe, M. D.	Minnesota.

Pharmacopœia.

John King, M. D.	Ohio.
H. D. Garrison, M. D.	Illinois.
Wm. S. Merrill, M. D.	Ohio.

New Remedies.

H. I. Fisk. M. D.	Massachusetts.
J. F. Cook, M. D.	Illinois.
J. S. Cowdrey, M. D.	Indiana.
E. W. Stevens, M. D.	Wisconsin.
E. Snell, M. D.	Minnesota.

Microscopy.

J. E. Hurlbut, M. D.	Illinois.
A. F. Elliott, M. D.	Minnesota.
W. Roberts, M. D.	Iowa.
W. Ross, M. D.	Iowa.
A. A. Wood, M. D.	New York.

PRESENT STATUS OF ECLECTICISM.

New York.

P. A. Morrow, M. D.; B. J. Stow, M. D.; D. E. Smith, M. D.

Connecticut.

S. B. Munn, M. D.; O. H. Jewell, M. D.; J. H. Robinson, M. D.

Massachusetts.

W. R. Hayden, M. D.; R. W. Geddes, M. D.; H. G. Newton, M. D.

Pennsylvania.

J. M. Harding, M. D.; M. S. Bronson, M. D.; C. D. Thompson, M. D.

Ohio.

O. E. Newton, M. D.; T. J. Wright, M. D.; S. H. Potter, M. D.

Indiana.

W. H. Kendrick, M. D.; R. R. Hall, M. D.; W. F. Flory, M. D.

Illinois.

A. B. Wescott, M. D.; D. H. Morgan, M. D.; L. C. Washburn, M. D.

Iowa.

J. R. Duncan, M. D.; C. E. Witham, M. D.; W. Molesworth, M. D.

Michigan.

V. A. Baker, M. D.; E. M. Shaw, M. D.; R. A. Beach, M. D.

Wisconsin.

E. W. Stevens, M. D.; M. R. Teegarden, M. D.; J. W. Hamilton, M. D.

Minnesota.

E. H. Morehouse, M. D.; A. F. Elliott, M. D.; E. Snell, M. D.

JOHN W. JOHNSON, M. D., *President.*

R. A. GUNN, M. D., *Secretary.*

122 Lexington Avenue, New York.

THE NEW SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

AN ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, IN SESSION AT CHICAGO, (ILLS.), FOR THE YEAR 1870.

BY ALEXANDER WILDER, M. D.
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In this nineteenth century of our era, a nation is born in a day. There is no obligatory requirement to go back to mediæval periods to find a charter; no court of heraldry exists from which it is necessary to obtain a crest and coat of arms to assure admittance into the circles of genuine nobility. The men of the present age make history for themselves; they hew their own way to franchises and rights divine; they permit no syllabus or dogma of infallibility to place them outside of any pale of authorized and useful activity. Much as we venerate the Past, deep as is the awe that comes over us, Children of the Mist, we will nevertheless vehemently assert our heirship of all that is good and true, and refuse to yield a tithe of our birthright. If there is a destiny to shape our course, we propose to hew for it a way with our own hands.

This Convocation represents a constituency and an idea. As representatives of the progressive element in the ranks of medical practitioners, acting in all good conscience before God and men, this association is congregated here this day. We are not empirics, we are not charlatans, we are not pretenders. Whoever applies to us any such appellations is a calumniator, a diabolus, and in our own State of New York is liable to a suit in a court of law for damages as a common slanderer. No, we are physicians, students of physiological and pathological science, the knowledges relating to man, to health and disease, and to the art of treating disease; and while we recognize and acknowledge the fact that there is infinitely much that we have not learned, we deny also, before high heaven and in the presence of men, the right of any association or school of physicians to denominate themselves and

their colleges scientific, and to decry us who chance to entertain views and sentiments differing from theirs. Every one of us must be tested by his work, rather than by his assumption of knowledge and skill; and by that rule, we apprehend, the Eclectic will not suffer much from comparison with any other practitioner. The less bragging that we all do, and the more useful work, the better for ourselves and for those who have to do with us. We can well afford, when our works praise us, to go on patiently in the even tenor of our way, without being disturbed if our old school rivals are supercilious. "You may outlaw the friend of truth, but truth remains; you may humble the poet, the artist and the Christian, but you cannot thereby debase poetry or art or Christianity."

WHY THE NEW SCHOOL EXISTS.

The new school of medicine to which we belong, the doctrines which it comprises, and the processes of healing art which it inculcates, all owe their existence to the earnest desire of bold-thinking men for truth; to the independent exercise of observation and experience, and to a disregard, amounting almost to contempt, for the common prejudice, as well as the ridicule of the world. It is the offspring of the protest made by those men against a medical practice which hastened patients to their death in hecatombs, slaughtering them by venesection, and poisoning them with mercury, arsenic and other poisonous drugs, as a housekeeper poisons rats. These protesting men could not be made to believe or subscribe to the notion that substances which will produce positive disease in a healthy individual are suitable agents for curing persons that are sick; and when they read in the books of Moses that "the blood is the life," they knew that it would be murderous to shed it with lancets under the pretext of thereby removing disease. They witnessed not only the multitudes that were hastened to premature graves by this "regular" and recognized system of malpractice; but also those who escaped the physician, with dropsical and ulcerated limbs, diseased glands, pleuritic adhesions, and a host of other maladies, all of them the effect of noxious medication, to drag out a tedious existence and curse the day which first brought them into contact with a doctor.

With such evidence and such examples what could honest and intelligent men do but protest, refusing to be treated in such a manner when sick, because the physician was more dangerous than the sickness? It was the only course to be taken; it was taken, and now the old school practice of medicine stands indicted and arraigned before the bar of public opinion, like a common felon in a court of criminal jurisdiction.

THE JUSTICE OF THE IMPEACHMENT.

This language, however severe it may seem, is no wordy declamation, without sense or reason; but is an impeachment to which numerous physicians have often pleaded guilty. We may be blamed for saying this; but every intelligent man who has given the subject attention knows that what we allege is true. For long years patients were freely bled about as regularly as a physician was called; they were then drugged with calomel, followed frequently by tartar emetic, till, often, if they had not vital energy enough to master both the disease and the medicine combined, the grave, like charity, covering the multitude of sins, hid them away from view, concealing at the same time the blunders of the treatment and the incompetency of the physician.

If any one wants examples to attest this, we invite him to read the physician's account of how General Washington was bled and medicated on the occasion of his last illness, and then let him ask himself whether he could undergo such a thorough bleeding and survive. Let him read the particulars of the medical treatment of the late Count Cavour, the prime minister of the king of Italy. Let him procure and read the report of the physician who treated the late President Harrison, and tell us whether if he himself should undergo such a drugging, he would expect ever again to see a day of health. Indeed, it is a question whether needle-guns or chassepot rifles are more deadly than such medication.

MERITS OF THE NEW SCHOOL.

Such are the grounds of our protest, and the reasons for establishing a separate organization. We cannot approve of the barbarous practice which has been depicted; and we must be free to learn and substitute more excellent methods of treating the sick. We have no design or wish to lower the standard of professional qualification. We are painfully conscious of our shortcomings; but we do not perceive that our revilers and caluminators know or do better. Besides, our observation and experience have shown to us that a relatively ignorant person, handling the remedies which we employ, is far safer to be entrusted with the care of those who are sick than others who may be more classically, and perhaps more thoroughly, instructed, technically, but who adhere to the approved medicaments prescribed as officinal in the dispensatories and pharmacopœias of our old school competitors.

The new school of medicine is in the earliest stages of its history, and yet, in its therapeutics and its materia medica, it has become an evangel to every diverse and rival sect. Homœopathists and old school practitioners have alike enriched themselves from its contributions to

medical knowledge. We do not claim for it perfection, but it is not stationary. It grows. Bigotry has no place in its borders.

ONWARD!

There are many remedies which are yet to be discovered for human ailments; many ways to keep patients alive while nature is rallying to expel disease, yet to be revealed to man; and it is for us to watch the moment when discoveries are made, to adopt assiduously and instantly every improvement in the art of healing, and to apply it in practice — not so much with the view of advancing our own reputation as with the sincere desire to alleviate human misery. We must never shut our eyes to any light shed on our profession, come from what source it may.

Our platform, it will be perceived, is so broad as to afford room for every generous, high-minded person who is devoted to medical science, and comprehensive enough to include every fact, every truth, every idea which is capable of use to ourselves, our profession and our fellow-men. We invite to our side every one with integrity, moral courage and proper self-respect enough to entitle him to a place here. We ask not where such a one was educated; whose diploma confers the rank; what favorite modes of practice and thought may characterize him; but whether he is honorably persisting in worthy purpose, loving truth for truth's own sake, and modestly but reverently and stubbornly prosecuting the course which honest conviction marks out for his steps. This is the only way to exemplify a genuine manhood; to become and be a good physician; to honor the healing profession; and, I add, this is medical eclecticism.

We have no traditions to enslave our intellect; no Procrustean code of ethics to destroy our manhood; no servile or selfish usages to cramp our movements and degrade us.

No knowledge should be considered too abstruse or sacred, too commonplace or trivial, to be acquired and cherished. We are not too good or pure to know anything, however low and humble; nor is anything within the scope of our intellect to be regarded as too holy to be explored and investigated. But too much care cannot be had of the spirit and temper with which we proceed. Knowledge has equal value wherever it is found, whether in a monumental stone, in a carving, or in the vaticinations of a seer, or the pages of a testament. There is little occasion for us to be eager to tear down, and we need not be emulous to build up. It behooves us to be wisely eclectic, gathering carefully the good that may come within the fold of our net, and casting away the residue. The realms of history, legend and fable invite our

search. The human heart has had too many utterances to warrant the belief that by silencing them all evil may be swept from the world. Whatever men in any age have reverently believed, has thereby a claim to our respect; and for the sake of knowledge we may sit willingly at the feet of teachers in every school.

A TRIBUTE TO PIONEER REFORMERS.

Indulge us with patience while we take a brief retrospect. There are those here who remember the first protests made in this country against a practice of medicine which they felt and believed to be deadly in its character; more destructive than pestilence and epidemic; more to be feared than the muskets of a foe upon the field of battle. I pause to do honor to the memory of SAMUEL THOMSON. When he demonstrated that bleeding was but taking the life; when he denounced mercury, antimony and their kindred inorganic poisons as always destructive and never healing, he performed a service to the human race for which we cannot be too grateful. He enunciated a mighty proposition when he asserted that "HEAT IS LIFE AND COLD IS DEATH." He was uneducated; and, like other illiterate men, he feared learning, acting perhaps, after all, in the spirit of the author of the injunction, "Cease, my son, from the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge." Nevertheless, to us, he seemed more like Jack Cade in the tragedy, who accused a man of having "most traitorously corrupted the youth of the realm in erecting a grammar school," causing "printing to be used," and having men about who discussed "a noun and a verb." Such a man might call popular attention to abuses; for it is upon the ignorant and unlearned that abuses, especially medical abuses, fall the most severely; but he cannot be a "king of men." Samuel Thomson has had his day, and already his school of medical practice has ceased to exist. Refusing a scientific basis for his doctrines, with his generation his uses passed away.

It was for men of a different character to lay the foundation of the new school of medicine. In our own State of New York were propounded the doctrines which constituted the nucleus; but Thomas V. Morrow and his associates established the organization which gave to eclectic medicine its form and defined its mission. You know the story of the little institution at Worthington, Ohio, which received its charter through the influence of Bishop Chase, the uncle of our venerated Chief Justice; and the early history of the medical associations, State and National, which then were organized and duly baptized with the name *Eclectic*. Provide, before this assemblage now convened here shall disperse, that that history shall be collected and

compiled, that it may be placed upon record, never to be lost or forgotten.

THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

There was, it is well known, a "National Eclectic Medical Association," organized about twenty-two years ago, under the auspices of Morrow, Buchanan, the Newtons, Hill, and others. It had as its presidents the following pioneers: In 1848 and 1849, Thomas V. Morrow, of Ohio; in 1850, Joseph R. Buchanan, of Kentucky; in 1851, Robert S. Newton, then of Ohio; in 1852, Calvin Newton, of Massachusetts; in 1853, John Simms, of Delaware; in 1854, Walter Burnham, of Massachusetts; in 1855, Wooster Beach, of New York; in 1856, Grover Coe, of Pennsylvania.

After this, the association ceased to hold meetings. There was a centrifugal element in the ranks, such as are incident to colonies and young parties, which created the general impression that the days of its usefulness had ended. Perhaps this was so; but to our apprehension, the case has been aptly illustrated by the parable of the tares of the field: "The kingdom of heaven is likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among his wheat and went his way." We have found this to be the case in the East, where the number of Eclectic physicians would have been larger, the standard of professional attainment higher, and the principles of medical reform more pure and unmixed, if the National Association had continued to meet.

DRAWBACKS.

But now, we have much of the work to do over again, and with added difficulties. The men who were foremost as eclectic reformers twenty years ago, now take little interest in the matter. There is a disposition to recede toward the old school, and to flirt with homœopathy without contracting a respectable marriage. Younger physicians, who endeavor to carry forward the eclectic cause, are more or less discouraged because of the leaden indifference of the men who were so zealous a generation ago. There are those, too, who seem to have cherished a purpose to make whatever there is of activity in the eclectic ranks subservient to themselves, as though medical knowledge was not free as the air of heaven, and not theirs to modify and dispense. We are not here, however, to be dressed in swaddling clothes, or to be put out to nurse. We have come to build the wall of our Jerusalem, although "Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, Geshem, the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies," hearing of it, may laugh us to scorn, and deride us, and say: "What is this thing that

ye do? Will ye rebel? Will these foolish men fortify themselves? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish which are burnt?" Perhaps we shall hear some Tobiah the Ammonite predict of us, as of the companions of Nehemiah, "Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall."

But with such men, whether they are professedly our brethren, or are to be reckoned with our rivals and adversaries, we have nothing to do.

REORGANIZATION AS A NATIONAL SOCIETY.

It is purposed on this occasion, as a means to carry onward the work which we have undertaken, to organize anew, our national Society. We do so because we regard this to be an essential step toward securing professional rank and position in the scientific public of both hemispheres, and to obtain our rightful recognition at official hands in our own country. It is good not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. "They that feared God spake often one to another, and the Lord heard it."

SUGGESTIONS.

It may not be amiss to offer a few suggestions in reference to this matter of organization. The spirit of the present age is averse to sectarian divisions, to the inflated assumptions of professional men, and to every endeavor of one man or class of men to prescribe codes and formulas of belief for others. An ecumenical council may declare the pope infallible; old school physicians and their homœopathic imitators may denominate themselves scientific, and with ill manners and coarse breeding call others empirics and charlatans; but men of refined instincts, of intelligence and good sense, are not to be carried away or dictated to in this manner. Medicine is a catholic science; and they who are really proficient in it are above the employment of the slang vocabulary to express their sentiments toward their fellows, however great may be the differences of belief. Medicine is liberal in its influence; and they who are physicians in spirit, as well as by virtue of a conferred degree, are free and liberal in their dealings, and have neither need nor disposition to cramp and enslave their fellows by an arbitrary code of ethics, born of the dark ages, the tendency of which is to create a professional monopoly, and to set aside the golden rule.

We should, therefore, associate on a basis which shall secure the largest freedom of thought and action. There is no need of a verbose constitution, and a voluminous system of by-laws. The rules which govern parliamentary bodies have been tested by centuries of experiece, and are, in the main, adequate to the government of our

meetings. Too much machinery takes away the life and interest of social assemblages..

CODE OF ETHICS.

A code of ethics, as our old school neighbors have established it, is but a bar, a stumbling-block, an impediment in the way, which it is our duty to thrust aside and disregard. It is barbarous, despotic, anti-republican. The burden on the shoulders of John Bunyan's pilgrim was not more onerous; nor had it any other source or destination than that of this same code of medical ethics. It is a sort of Lilliputian cordage for binding Gullivers to the ground. Let this organization, born of the Christian civilization of the nineteenth century, and baptized in the spirit and fire of American freedom, stand fast in the liberty with which it has been made free, and be not entangled with such a yoke of bondage. For us, the principle laid down in the golden rule is sufficient: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

The common law, and the business usages of society, pervaded by that principle, are abundantly ample for our wants. It is our right to declare ourselves to our fellow-men, to make our business public, to adopt specialties, if we see fit, to employ the columns of public journals like other men of business; and we are fools to let any set of men or code of ethics bully us, or deter us from the exercise of such freedom. Only let good sense and good taste, not vaunting language and fulsome pretense, characterize our modes of appearing before the public.

WOMEN ACKNOWLEDGED AS FELLOW PHYSICIANS.

In one essential, the new school of medicine has always been just and consistent with principle. Without vaunting itself for any extraordinary generosity, or endeavoring to determine any social problem, it has always kept its doors open to women, and never attempted to render medicine an exclusive monopoly for men. They have entered its colleges, received its diplomas, and been admitted to membership in medical societies. At the meetings of the National Eclectic Medical Association women repeatedly took seats as members, and we note that at the session held at the Stuyvesant Institute, in the city of New York, on the 5th of June, 1855, Professor Walter Burnham being then president, Miss Carrie Richards, of Connecticut, "qualified herself agreeably to the requisitions of the constitution, and took her place as a member." The next morning Professor Burnham reported the following resolution, which was adopted with but four negative votes:

RESOLVED, — That we recommend to the trustees of the several medical colleges to admit to the general course of lectures, such females as may desire to avail themselves of the advantages of a thorough medical education, or to provide such instruction, not connected with the regular course, as may be deemed best adapted to secure this end.

Following in our wake, other institutions have opened their curriculum to woman ; the old world is aroused, and at Paris, Aberdeen, Upsala, and Zurich, women are now instructed in medical and surgical knowledge. Besides, there is an eclectic college for the medical instruction of women in Hindoostan.

EDUCATING THE SEXES IN THE SAME CLASSES.

The colleges which are exclusively female are hardly so good or so successful as those where the two sexes are educated together, — a fact equally true in our common schools and private families. The modesty of this practice never disturbs anybody who has any modesty to spare. The presence of young women in a class appears to stimulate young men to greater proficiency, and we presume that the rule holds good in the case of the young women themselves. Indeed, we have never found it very profitable to be more modest than God was when he formed man in his own image and created them male and female. In our medical college in New York we have conferred the degree of doctor of medicine upon fourteen women, a majority of whom are engaged in reputable and remunerative practice. We do not consider this to be liberality ; it is not courtesy even, but simple justice. We are not anxious to blazon the matter abroad ; but let those who speak of us be ready to proclaim that, from the earliest period in its history, our eclectic college and the eclectic school of medicine have made no more distinction between one person and another than did God himself when he dispensed the bounties of the universe equally to his creatures. Where distinctions exist, and an antipathy is indulged to the instruction of women in medical and surgical knowledge, there the spirit of Eclecticism is not supreme. Those who share our common humanity, our households and our social life, are welcome to participate with us in the acquiring of useful knowledge, and in bearing the labors and responsibilities incident to our mundane life. Whatever vocation any person is fit to pursue, is a right which no true eclectic, no true man will ever venture to gainsay. We are willing to rest the question there, and abide the decision of a candid public. It is our purpose to advance ; not emulous to make innovations, but eagerly desirous to ascertain and obey the truth.

ADVANCING ALWAYS.

We have no moves to take back. The impetus of the age carries us forward. The promised land of professional supremacy is ours by birthright. The ablest medical men of Europe are adopting our remedies and giving us credit for them. Our old school and homœo-

pathic practitioners in this country are giving up their lancets and adopting our remedies, carefully omitting to give us credit for them. But the world is moving forward, and we may expect that here in the United States, where our prophets were shunned and persecuted, the posterity of those who did those deeds will gather the stones to build for them monuments and sepulchres.

THE PROSPECT BEFORE US.

Whether in our national organization it is expedient to retain a denominational appellation is a matter of question. Our individual impressions are adverse. We are a new school and expect to absorb our rivals. A sectarian name appears, therefore, to be in the way and both unsuitable and inappropriate. Those who now scoff at us as ignorant, irregular and empirical, will yet "remain to pray." We shall yet, in a minor sense, witness the stone which the builders rejected, that the same has become the head of the corner; and we can afford to await the *denouement:* "Whoso shall fall upon that stone the same shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall it shall grind him to powder." We are not engaged in a war of mere propagandism. Our platform is that of broad humanity, including everything true and good. Our principles are as catholic as those of the mighty angel flying through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to all that dwell upon the earth. We may not be able, like Jesus, to rebuke demons with a word, or like Appolonius, to heal disease by a touch; but we are doing a godlike work in banishing the lancet and the poisonous mineral from medical practice, and substituting in their place a system of innocuous medication. We are enlarging our numbers and the field of our labor. A few years ago we were feeble, without influence except among the poor and lowly; but now we hold honorable rank and place in the medical profession. Our history is analogous to that of the patriarch who said, "with my staff alone I passed over this Jordan, and now I am become two bands." We hold the arbitration of our own destiny as a school of medicine. The future is ours. We have, in short, but to make good our position before the world. Petty jealousies and domineering purposes should be laid aside, and honorable emulation with generous intention should pervade our ranks. We must deserve if we would obtain confidence. We must be wisely liberal with our means and efforts. We must cultivate in ourselves that ken, that power of perceiving, which is akin to divine inspiration. We must cleanse our motives from the taint of selfishness.

Let our faith be deep and loyal in what is good and true; our

eagerness for knowledge, earnest and insatiable, and our purpose full of resolve and persistency. Then will we be able to assert the superiority of our eclecticism; then will we establish our right to the front rank of the healing profession; then will we realize the full ideal of the physician — priest of nature and her interpreter to mankind.

"The diamond may rot and disappear under the corroding influence of time; the stars and worlds which for uncounted cycles of ages have moved onward in their revolutions through space, may stop and come to an end; but the right is immortal; it always existed, it will never cease to be."

ECLECTICISM IN BROOKLYN.

BY H. E. FIRTH, M. D.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the National Eclectic Medical Association:

It is with feelings of pleasure that we appear before this august assemblage of eclectic physicians, representatives of the various colleges, and state and local societies, throughout these United States of America, convened for the purpose of forming a national association.

We esteem it a privilege to be present with you, and to exchange mutual congratulations as chosen representatives of a numerous school of practitioners, upon whose sympathy and moral support we so confidently rely for the future success of our great enterprise.

It is scarcely half a century since a few pioneers of medical reform started upon a career of usefulness, confident in the newly-discovered principles of reform, and determined to combat the errors of old physic. The time was auspicious for the spread of the truths of Eclecticism.

The country had recovered from the prostrating influence of the Revolutionary war, and the war of 1812, and under the genial influence of our republican institutions, the intelligence of the people was being developed in all that pertained to art, science and literature.

Old creeds, old dogmas, old customs, old prejudices, and old theories which had long been cultivated amid the fog of prejudice, and inculcated in the schools of physic erected to the gods of calomel and the lancet, were exposed by these eclectics to public criticism; and the comparison of the two systems was submitted to the judgment of an educated people.

At the time of the advent of these reformers, the fundamental principles of Eclecticism, which is the philosophy of selecting the good of all other systems of practice, was, as it is now, in harmony with the spirit and progress of the age, and appealed to the intelligence of the thinking public.

It was evident to the reflecting masses that, whilst Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry and other of the collateral sciences of medicine had advanced, the true science of medicine, or the art of healing the sick, exhibited the weakness of human wisdom; the best wrought theories, when submitted to the test of experience, proved a failure, as the duration of disease was not abridged, but in many instances prolonged, and human mortality was not abated.

The people had become distrustful of the old system of calomel and blood-letting, together with the free administration of such powerful mineral poisons as antimony, arsenic, lead, zinc, copper, tin, etc., and were already flying to the extremes of homœopathy in hope of some change for the better.

Eclecticism in medicine is the natural outgrowth of an advanced civilization, and it is the lawful child of our republican institutions. It was conceived, germinated, and developed as the normal product of science, and nourished amid those influences and surroundings that have for their support fixed laws and principles. Its history dates back to the early age of steam, of railroads and electricity, and to that period when weighty problems were being solved by the superior intelligence of a progressive people. Its claims were submitted by its founders in a spirit of candor, but with a zeal commensurate with the great truths of reform.

Eclecticism is no longer an experiment, no longer simply an innovation upon time-honored customs. It is the principle of enlarged conception of truth; an inductive philosophy, and is laden with the facts and products of experience. The representatives of our system of practice are locating themselves in almost every section of our country; they are running over into the Canadas, are being scattered throughout the Eastern Continent, are flowing out in all the channels of civilization, and mingling with the inhabitants of every clime.

In view of the ultimate triumphs of our principles, Eclectics can

afford to bear the sneers of the insolent, and rest the justice of their cause to future history. The withering look of a dignified medical priesthood; the vain boast of a regular order ; the defiant deportment of rivalry; the curling lip of sarcasm, are weapons which are growing into disuse ; and another generation will be exempt, if they do not forget, the trials we have had to encounter.

Twenty years ago Eclecticism in Brooklyn was represented by only a few practitioners. Dr. D. E. Smith was one of the first pioneers ; Drs. Stow and Frisbie were next on the list. In the year 1852, Dr. H. E. Firth moved from the city of New York to Brooklyn. As our numbers were but few, we determined to unite with our brethren of the profession in New York, who were also then weak. We formed a society called the "New York and Brooklyn Medical and Pathological Society," which met semi-monthly. The Society was conducted for a number of years with much interest and ability.

In the year 1854 the physicians of Brooklyn, feeling the need of a county organization, formed a society called the "Eclectic Medical Society of the County of Kings," for which they secured a charter under the general act of incorporation. In the year 1861 the name of the society was changed to the "Brooklyn Academy of Eclectic Medicine." On the 15th day of March, 1866, the Society was made auxiliary to the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York. This Society has continued to meet monthly, and has increased in numbers and in interest, until it now has twenty-five regular, and a number of honorary members.

The essays and dissertations delivered before the Society, from time to time, are of such a character, that the interest in its meeting is maintained, each brother feeling that he has a personal interest, and also that it is his individual duty, to contribute his part to the general fund of information that is wont to be accumulated. Synopses of the essays and discussions are frequently reported for the press ; and the papers of our city have opened their columns for their reception.

Our Annual Meetings are celebrated in one of the large public halls of the city, and are well attended. A full report of these meetings appears in all our city papers. Our brethren of the profession from New York, with their ladies, assist us in the important excercises which follow the annual address, viz : the supplying of the inner, the physical man.

I have not referred to the opposition which the eclectics have experienced from the old-school doctors of Brooklyn. I need hardly do so at this time, for the day has passed when the eclectic profession regarded such opposition. But in our early history we were greatly

annoyed, and some of our profession put to considerable inconvenience in consequence of the authority they assumed. The domineering and dogmatical insolence of these allopaths found a medium of expression in that intolerant and tyrannical association hailing under the cognomen of the Kings County Medical Society. These old fogies of the Kings County Society had fortified themselves by a wall of defence in the shape of a constitution and by-laws; and, by a unity of action, they proposed to issue such edicts and ordinances as would exterminate the "eclectic quacks," as they chose to call us, and thus secure for themselves and their proselytes an eternity of triumph.

These old war veterans of Kings County smiled sarcastically at the pretensions of young Physic, believing as they did that these "mushrooms," as they called us, were but the product of an abnormal developement, and needed but a touch from their skilled caustic, to blunt, to paralyse, to destroy.

On one occasion, they issued an order from their President, summoning all eclectics to appear before their grand head and exhibit their "sheepskins" and other testimonials, that they might determine as to whether they had "pipped their shell" under the sacred tuitive care of the regular profession; and also that they might ascertain as to how they could dispose of them to the best advantage.

In order to brand this insult with the stamp of infamy, the Eclectic Medical Society called a meeting extraordinary in the Brooklyn Institute, (a public hall), in which meeting the friends in New York were invited to participate. Professor Levi Reuben delivered before the Society a masterly address, which, with the accompanying resolutions, was published in the city papers. These resolutions read as follows:

RESOLVED, — That as Eclectic physicians, occupying as we do a central position between the various conflicting schools of medicine, we continue to investigate the claims and appropriate the good of all systems of medical practice.

RESOLVED, — That, while we believe in the largest liberty, we can but regard the late movement of the Allopathic Medical Society as an attempt to exercise a dogmatical censorship wholly unwarranted by law, and unworthy of the age.

RESOLVED, — That, inasmuch as the principles of American Eclecticism are not as widely diffused as they should be, therefore we recommend that a free course of public lectures be ordered by this Society, to take place the ensuing Winter, at such time and place as the Society may direct.

RESOLVED, — That while we regard with pride the eclectic colleges of our country, we have no bigotry with reference to graduates of other schools, — our society being open to all liberal-minded physicians who can subscribe to its Constitution and By-Laws.

RESOLVED, — That we apply at the earliest opportunity to the Legislature of the State of New York for a special act of incorporation of the Eclectic Medical Society of the County of Kings.

These Sangradoes of the Kings County Medical Society were not slow in making the discovery that they had "caught a tartar." The

movement on their part was far from being a successful policy measure, but on the contrary had done really more to bring Eclecticism before the people than any other course that could have been taken. Finally, a radical old school health officer proposed another plan, viz : to refuse the certificate of eclectic physicians, and in that way to determine whether they were regular graduates or not. But this old Dutch fogy carried the joke too far, and he found himself confronted with a power that would have crushed him, legally and politically, if he had attempted to carry his proposed plan into execution.

But the times have changed. The Eclectics are on as firm a legal base as any society, college, or institution in the State. They are backed up by the charter of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State. They can point to their chartered medical college of the city of New York. They have a dispensary, with its special charter, in which they treat more patients than certainly any one, and probably any two dispensaries in Brooklyn. We are pursuing an even course, and promulgating the doctrines of Eclecticism. We are at war with wrong principles, not with men; and when our old-school friends will lay down their "battle axe," we will meet them on an equal footing.

We hope to see the time, — we feel confident our children will, — when distinctive names will not be necessary to distinguish the different schools of practice, and when a medical man will be esteemed in proportion as he is skilful and scientific. We believe that medicine is gradually being reduced to an art, if not to a science ; and that the wide shade of difference between Allopaths and Homœopaths will ultimately graduate into one line of thought and principle, and that all men will be eclectic in principle, if not in name.

Until that period is reached, eclectics have a work to do, and their mission would not be completely filled, should they now lose their nominal distinction.

THE STATUS OF ECLECTIC PHARMACY.

BY H. D. GARRISON, M. D.
of Chicago, (Ills.)

ALMOST every writer for the Eclectic press has interwoven in his contributions more or less special pharmacy. Some have been contented with proposing new mixtures of old ingredients, others have advocated combinations of common with new and ofttimes outlandish drugs; while still others, ignoring, or more probably, in many cases, not knowing of old established preparations, have proposed tinctures and syrups, simple and compound, of the usual ingredients, but of *unusual* strength. Yet others more ambitious or more zealous, or perhaps not being disturbed often by professional calls, have written volumes of pure pharmacy under *various titles*, as practice, obstetrics, surgery, materia medica, etc. Among those who have written copiously on this subject we mention Beach, Morrow, King, Paine, Buchanan, Hollamback, Jones and Scudder. The most noticeable feature among this array of authorities is, that while all have gone over the *same* ground and have quite uniformly ascribed the *same therapeutic* properties to the agents they treated of, whether they possessed them or not, all differ *materially* as to the composition and strength of the pharmaceutic preparations of them. It requires labor, expense and experience to determine the therapeutic properties of drugs, but any one can change the composition of a mixture or the strength of a tincture, and herein each seems to have labored to excel his predecessors. This degree of knowledge is possessed by every empiric and quack, yet many productions contain little else that is new.

I have said that it requires labor and experience to determine the therapeutic qualities of medicine, but this is only true in theory. Practically it is very easy in many cases. Thus, since alteratives are defined to be "remedies which operate in a *silent, insensible and inexplicable* manner," we know that any agent which does not exert some *perceptible* effect must be an alterative; just as the negro knew that his dog, which had been found worthless for *every other* purpose, must be a good coon dog, for every dog must be good for something. On sim-

ilarly scientific and abstruse principles may be determined the somewhat vague qualities denominated resolvent, depurative, deobstruent, carminative, vulnerary, etc. Since alcohol, *per se*, is a reliable stimulant, carminative and vulnerary, it is easy to determine that any tincture not possessed of other inimical qualities must at least possess these.

But as to the matter of therapeutics, we may very safely permit each author and each individual to entertain his own views and convictions. Moreover, if a physician becomes fanatical as to certain forms of pharmaceutic compounds he makes or causes to be made in his own office and for his own patients, we have no complaint to make against him. Even if, Indian style, he goes about digging roots and herbs for economical stews and decoctions, we say let him alone. Some discoveries have been made in this empirical manner, and many who hunger and thirst for distinction are not capable of more extended researches.

There is, however, and always will be a very large class of physicians who have too much neatness, taste and dignity, and consequently too much business, to stoop to this method of procuring cheap remedies. They prefer to make five dollars by their own profession and pay the druggist one dollar, rather than to make only three dollars, and prevent the apothecary from making anything. It is for this class of physicians and their apothecaries that a standard, or pharmacopœia, is needed. Those who prepare their own remedies from raw whiskey and green plants, require no standard. Guessing is their love, their forte and their business. They begin by guessing the disease, then guess at the remedy, and finally guess at the dose of their preparations. When we turn, however, to the authors we have named, we find confusion confounded as to names, composition and strength of preparations. Each has changed everything to suit his own ideas, or if he has no particular ideas on the subject, has altered everything to give his work at least the semblance of novelty.

This is no doubt very smart in the authors, very remunerative to publishers, and very fascinating to students and superficial readers; but it is fatal to the cause at large. What shall be done? Shall we go on as of yore, guessing what is meant, and trying to follow and harmonize with a dozen authorities, which at each new edition are subject to the same capricious changes? Or, has this profession the manhood and professional spirit to say we will have a *standard* which we will maintain and adhere to until we change it? Have we the liberality and enterprise to pledge ourselves to buy such a book, and to use and recommend it, so as to make its preparation and publication self-sustaining? I believe that almost every physician and druggist

in the country would be only too happy to possess such a work. But to be accepted as a standard, it must be executed by *authority*, and compiled by men of *ability*.

Assuming that this Convention will not adjourn without taking measures to secure this great boon to the profession, I beg to offer to those to whom this work may be delegated some practical suggestions, which I hope will conclude my labor in this respect.

For a name, nothing occurs to my mind more appropriate than the simple, yet neat and expressive title, "ECLECTIC PHARMACY," which would at once distinguish it from the United States Pharmacopœia, Dispensatories, etc.

A small volume, not larger at most than King's Obstetrics, if properly arranged and concisely written, will contain all that is known and necessary to be stated in a work of this kind. It should be divided into two departments, viz: MATERIA MEDICA and PHARMACY. In the first department should appear, alphabetically arranged, the names, physical and chemical description and therapeutic qualities, doses, etc., of all crude drugs used by our profession. As a work of this character is not expected to be a treatise on botany, chemistry, or a history of medicine, these subjects which usually occupy so much space may be almost entirely omitted, the reader being presumed to have authorities on his shelves, even if he has not the knowledge in his head, as he should have. In the first division should appear not only the medicinal plants but all those chemicals, gums, resins, etc., which are not generally prepared by the most enterprising apothecaries, as quinine, iodide of potassium, opium, resin of jalap, essential and fixed oils, ethers, etc.

In the division of PHARMACY should be placed all the compounds and preparations which skillful apothecaries may prepare, together with such information as to the properties of the products as is not evident from the composition. To illustrate the subject more clearly we will discuss one article according to the plan herein set forth, for example:

PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM.

Common names — mandrake, May apple, wild lemon. The roots, which alone are medicinal, are long, jointed, brownish externally, gray internally, and when dry striated. Those which when dry present a resinous fracture are richer in podophyllin than those presenting a pithy appearance. It is abundant throughout the United States, and should be collected early in the spring or late in autumn. Its active principle is a resin named "podophyllin," which see under its heading in division of PHARMACY.

Properties — A powerful hydragogue cathartic. In overdoses emeto-cathartic. In small doses cholagogue, alterative and sialagogue. Its reputed anthelmintic qualities are probably due to its powerful cathartic action. This agent in its action resembles jalap, but is more thorough and by far more cholagogue, on which account it has largely supplanted the mercurials in general practice. Salines increase its hydragogue action. In small doses a valuable alterative. Dose of the powder as a cathartic, 1 to 5 grs. The infusion only partially represents the plant.

In the division of PHARMACY we should continue the discussion of

PODOPHYLLIN.

The resinous principle of podophyllum peltatum. This resin is precipitated when an alcoholic tincture of mandrake is diluted with water, or deprived of its spirit by distillation. In the latter case the resin requires much washing with warm water. It is a brownish colored resin, having a vitreous fracture, and produces a light buff or cream colored powder, partially soluble in ether and alkalies, with the latter of which it forms spontaneous compounds. It is powerfully cathartic and cholagogue. No agent causes more prolonged action of the bowels than this, which, if rapidly repeated, gives rise to an artificial dysentery. Dose as a cathartic, ½ to 1 gr. — as a laxative and cholagogue, ¼ to ½ gr.

Other preparations of this agent, as fluid and solid extracts, should appear in their appropriate classes. The foregoing comprises all that is known of mandrake and podophyllin, and is stated with the use of less than three hundred words. For the same purpose Professor King employs over *five thousand* words. By the use of a few symbols and contractions of words and sentences, our description could easily be abridged one-third.

In reference to the pharmaceutic classes of fluid and solid extracts, we remark that there is no necessity of writing out in detail the process for each article, as is done not only in King's Dispensatory, but in the United States Pharmacopœia. Any one with sense enough to make one of these preparations will soon discover that the articles can and, indeed, must be classified to get good results. Two classes at once present themselves, viz: resinous and non-resinous plants. With the former may be placed those plants rich in fixed oils, as lobelia, stillingia, etc. Another class, containing essential oils and other volatile active principles, must not be overlooked. A process good for a number of these classes will be found, with slight variations which will suggest themselves, equally good for all members of that class. Thus, a process for making fluid or solid extract of mandrake is equally applicable to jalap, black cohosh, stillingia, lobelia, blue flag, and many

other articles; while evidently the same process will be required for geranium, witch hazel, tag alder, white oak, rhatany, etc. The mints, cubebs, juniper berries, etc., require special treatment to preserve their volatile principles on which their value largely depends. Thus by classifying the drugs according to their differences of composition, a few processes take the place of many.

The properties of a plant having been stated in the Materia Medica division of the book, *need not be repeated* under each of its simple preparations. If gelseminum is sedative, of course fluid extract of gelseminum is also sedative.

In the United States Pharmacopœia, as well as in King's Dispensatory, there are many very long and tedious processes for making many chemicals, which no one but a manufacturing chemist ever thinks of making, as the mineral alkalies and acids, iodide and bromide of potassium, and a host of salts; also, the salts of quinia and morphia, chloroform, aqua ammonia, sweet spirits of nitre, sulphuric ether, etc. These mountains of words are of no use to the retail druggist and physician, who can never attempt the processes, and for the most part are equally useless to the manufacturing chemist, who has better methods. Assuming that these processes are correct and even the best, no physician or retail druggist can afford to employ them for evident reasons. Suppose an apothecary to attempt the manufacture of the acids, what would be the odor of his shop and the condition of his surgical instruments? Let a physician set up small chloride of lime works in his office, and after making five pounds of a poor article, ascertain how many hundred pounds he could have bought with the money it will require to re-polish his instruments, and he will then feel how absurd it is to introduce such processes into a work designed for apothecaries and physicians. Processes for mining coal and iron ore, and for reducing the latter in blast furnaces, and for still further purifying it by the puddling or Bessemer process, so as to attain pure iron from which to make iron by hydrogen, would be as appropriate. It is impossible to conduct these operations in this small way so as to compete either in quality or in prices, with those who manufacture but a few articles on a large scale. Instead of these processes, let us have a faithful description of the products, together with such tests as will assure us of their goodness and guard against spurious or adulterated articles.

A large number of pharmaceutical preparations might with advantage be dismissed. Some are worthless, while others are so simple as almost never to require the aid of the apothecary in their preparation. Among the former we mention solid extracts of plants whose principles

are volatile, as is the case with cubebs, valerian, etc. Among the latter, cataplasms, of which about a dozen varieties encumber King's work; also, confections, which at best, are nasty daubs, now seldom prescribed.

Decoctions and infusions being seldom used except in domestic practice, and being generally prescribed without reference to their officinal strength, might with much propriety be omitted. Although five infusions are mentioned by King and thirty-one varieties are officinal in the United States Pharmacopœia, few are even aware of the officinal strength of one. It is not suggested that the use of infusions and decoctions be abandoned, but that physicians hereafter, as they have generally done heretofore, prescribe the composition and strength of the preparations they wish.

In the class "LINIMENTA," there are seven articles officinal in the United States Pharmacopœia against twenty in King's. This class might be cut down to three or four, which are in general use and which cannot be extemporized.

King also has a class called "LOTIONS," with fifteen members, which he might with about equal propriety have increased to fifteen hundred while he was about it. In this case, as in the case of infusions, decoctions, liniments and poultices, physicians quite generally write in detail the mixtures they desire; therefore, the introduction of such a class is simply superfluous.

The class denominated "MISTURA," being chiefly emulsions and other unstable messes, is unworthy of continuance. Hume's Life Drops, which finds its abode here, should be classed among Liniments or Compound Tinctures.

All simple tinctures and syrups which can be made instantly from fluid extracts should be dropped as officinal preparations.

When our Pharmacy shall have become free from the legions of empirical mixtures and messes referred to, prescribing will become more accurate and definite by physicians; while druggists, being relieved of the necessity of keeping in stock these articles, can carry larger and better lines of simple drugs and primary preparations.

WHY ECLECTIC PHYSICIANS REFUSE TO BLEED.

BY ROBERT S. NEWTON, M. D.

We refuse to bleed because we consider it unscientific, injurious to the constitution, and often dangerous to life. A physician who takes charge of a patient, in the course of a critical attack of disease, is bound to do everything which will promote his recovery, and to abstain from everything which will increase his debility, or break down that vital power upon which his recovery depends. If other physicians, through ignorance and inexperience, urge a measure which he knows to have injurious and dangerous effects, it is his duty to protest against it, in order to protect the life of the patient, as he would protect the life of his own brother in a similar position. A physician who is governed by these moral principles will not yield to fashionable errors, and allow the life of a patient to be sacrificed while it is possible for him to prevent it.

There are many fashions which have prevailed in medical science, arising from ignorance and inexperience, and perpetuated by authority and example, against which intelligent physicians have arisen, and by earnest opposition and remonstrance have succeeded in procuring the necessary reform. The barbarous fashion of cauterizing wounds and closing divided arteries by burning with a hot iron was the universal custom of the orthodox practice, until the bold reformer, Ambroise Paré, protested against it, and proved, by the trial, that arteries could be closed without burning, by means of a simple ligature. Paré, of course, experienced great opposition, but was soon triumphant ; and every enlightened physician of the present day should be proud to follow his example, and co-operate in destroying or reforming the errors and barbarism of medical science.

We have not the slightest doubt that the entire medical profession will, ere long, regard the practice of bleeding sick and debilitated invalids as not less absurd than the old fashion of applying the red-hot iron to a painful wound. A large portion of the medical profession

have already condemned and rejected bleeding as a barbarism, and a still larger portion of the enlightened public agree with them in sentiment. The entire medical profession have been reforming their practice, in this respect, for fifty years past — bleeding less and less every year, as the world grows more enlightened, but changing their course of treatment so gradually that few are aware that an immense revolution has been accomplished. Twenty, thirty, or forty years ago, physicians almost invariably bled, in every case of active diseases, besides a large number of cases in which chronic debility and the deficiency of blood constituted the leading symptoms. Physicians generally have learned to treat a great portion of their cases of fever without any bleeding, and but few at the present day would be so stupid or barbarous as to resort to the lancet for an attack of cholera, dropsy, tuberculous consumption, delirium tremens, or simple insanity.

It is obvious that the general use of the lancet is going out of fashion in all civilized countries, and if this reform continues for the next fifty years to as great an extent as for the fifty years past, bleeding will be entirely out of fashion by the end of the present century ; and the old-fashioned lancet will be almost as great a curiosity to the public as the cauterizing irons from the days of Ambroise Paré.

When so great a reform as this is in steady progress, men of intelligence and practical sagacity ought not to wait for the slow progress of fashion, but to find out what is right, and to introduce it at once. The reform now in progress has been, to a considerable extent, brought about by the influence of those whose greater boldness and energy have enabled them to abandon at once an unscientific and dangerous practice.

The Eclectic Physicians of America are still teaching and practising the doctrine, that the blood is one of the most important parts of the human body, and one which should never be sacrificed under any circumstances. For if it would be barbarous to bleed a man in perfect health, and thus enfeeble and undermine his constitution, it is still more barbarous to bleed him when he has become debilitated by disease, and less able to endure so debilitating a measure. During the last forty years, this American non-depletory system of practice has been tested through all the climates of our country, from Canada to Texas and California, by thousands of practitioners, in every class of diseases. This vast accumulation of experience has but strengthened and rendered immovable the conviction that the use of the lancet for bleeding, in the treatment of disease, is never, under any circumstances, requisite for the benefit of the patient. On the contrary, it is very well known that in fevers, inflammations, and all other diseases for which

the lancet has been prescribed, the Eclectic practice has been vastly more successful than the practice of any class of physicians who resort to blood-letting. Nay, more ; we can assert, without fear of contradiction, that all over the world, the class of physicians who have entirely repudiated the lancet, have been, without exception, much more successful than those by whom it has been used. It is remarkable that all physicians who have rejected or laid aside this treatment, continue to be satisfied with their change, and are never tempted, under any circumstances, to resort again to so destructive a measure. On the contrary, of those who have been accustomed to use the lancet, as taught by their professors, a large number are compelled by experience to diminish its use, and some even abandon it entirely, while others, dissatisfied with their results, become entire skeptics as to the value of medical science ; or abandon their profession in disgust, unless they find relief in some new system. Even the most ignorant pretenders, without medical education, who merely know how to give a few vegetable remedies, and bathe their patients, have had sufficient success, in many places, to secure a preference over well-educated and scientific practitioners who follow the practice of bleeding.

This universal practical superiority of the non-depletory system, over the old and bloody doctrines of the profession, is a perfect demonstration of the necessity of reform ; and whenever a physician of candid mind gives a fair trial to the two methods of practice, he invariably decides against bleeding ; hence a large proportion, if not a majority, of those who now reject the lancet, are individuals who were educated to bleed, and would have continued to do so, but for the results of experience. A fair trial of the comparative efficacy of the two systems was made by a German physician, Dr. Dietl. It has long been supposed that pneumonia was, above all other diseases, the one which most especially required the use of the lancet, and which manifested the most remarkable benefit from its application. Dr. Dietl made a fair trial, upon three hundred and eighty patients, of the relative value of bleeding and tartar emetic, in comparison with the unassisted resources of nature, with the following result ; 189 were treated by diet and rest alone — their mortality was 14, or 7.4 per cent.; 106 were treated by large doses of tartar emetic — their mortality was 22, or 20.7 per cent.; 85 were treated by blood-letting, and their mortality was 17, or 20.4 per cent. Thus, while the natural mortality of the disease, without medicine, was one to 13½, the mortality under the lance was one to five, and under tartar emetic a little more than one to five, or nearly three times as great as when the disease was left to nature. Similar results were obtained by Prof. J. H. Bennett and Dr. Skoda. Wherever the

blood-letting treatment has been subjected, by physicians or chemists, to a careful scientific investigation, the result has proved that it has no power to control inflammation, but, on the contrary, by increasing the weakness and irritability of the constitution, it renders the inflammatory process more dangerous and destructive.

Majendie, the distinguished French physiologist, in making the experiments upon dogs of placing a ligature upon the large biliary duct (*ductus choledochus*), found that the animals were invariably carried off by attacks of inflammation of the peritoneum (*peritonitis*). This inflammation was, of course, to be treated in the orthodox fashion by blood-letting; and, following up this doctrine, he determined, by bleeding in advance, to prevent the developement of inflammation entirely. But instead of preventing the peritonitis by this treatment, he found the attacks to be greatly aggravated. Reducing the blood to a more serous condition only made the peritonitis worse, and when, in place of the blood withdrawn, he injected water, the effects were only more injurious and fatal. Hence he honestly concluded that this mode of impoverishing the blood by the lancet was injurious. He says: "I do not hesitate to assert that the anti-inflammatory bleeding ordinarily practised before capital operations may frequently, according to the constitution of the individual undergoing them, help to determine the serious accidents observed to follow these operations." "I myself long upheld contrary opinions to those I now maintain, but I willingly sacrifice my vanity, and acknowledge my error. If all were as ready to do so, the progress of our science would be much more rapid." Majendie declares, too, that he made a careful trial of the effects of tartar emetic in the treatment of pneumonia and rheumatism, and was entirely unable to discover that they produced any good effects at all upon those diseases, but, on the contrary, tartar emetic injected into the blood-vessels of animals actually produced pnuemonia.

It appears, therefore, that the two fashionable remedies which have heretofore been so much used in the treatment of inflammation of the lungs, really aggravate the mortality of the disease. If this be the case, it is no mystery that patients who are left to the power of nature, with faithful nursing and bathing, recover so much better than those who are, after the old fashion, physicked and bled.

While the universal experience of physicians who have tried both systems is emphatically opposed to bleeding; while the ample statistics from hospitals, infirmaries, and dispensaries, are equally decisive as to the superiority of a bloodless practice, the dictates of medical science are equally plain and positive, showing that the practice of

bleeding is the most irrational violation of the laws of life and health. The facts upon this subject are so well established, so entirely incontestable, and so well known to all who are familiar with the modern achievements of medical science, that it is really remarkable that any well-educated physician should contend for the scientific propriety of blood-letting. The scientific facts by which this question must be determined are of so simple and intelligible a character, that every intelligent citizen, when they are properly laid before him, may understand them as well as the greatest luminaries of medical science. Upon this subject every man and woman of our country should be correctly informed, and prepared to protect themselves and their families against the formidable consequences of bleeding. The parent who allows a wife or child to die under the fashionable system of bloodshed, cannot easily excuse himself to his own conscience for the weakness or ignorance which led him to submit to so barbarous a practice.

Why should the blood of the human body ever be spilled or thrown away? Is it a superfluous or poisonous substance? Or is it an essential part of our bodies? Every one knows that the blood is an essential part of the human constitution; as essential as the heart or the lungs, the muscles, nerves, or brain. If a man in perfect health should voluntarily bleed himself, and throw away a gallon or two of his blood, he would be regarded as a maniac; and if he did not fall into some form of lingering disease, it would at least be long before he could recover his wonted vigor. The destruction of the blood would be as absurd and mischievous as the destruction of a portion of the flesh. When the flesh is extirpated by the knife, the injury is local; but when the blood is destroyed by the lancet, the injury is general, affecting all parts of the constitution, and enfeebling every vital power. About thirty-five pounds of blood are necessary for a man of ordinary dimensions, for the functions of life. Every ounce of blood which he loses from his proper supply is a deduction from the general vital force of his constitution, and renders him more liable to become the victim of disease. Bleeding, therefore, is nothing more than a direct attack upon vitality.

The chemical examination of the blood, by the most distinguished pathologists of modern times, gives the most ample demonstrations of this view of the subject. The blood consists of a clear albuminous and saline fluid, called serum, holding in suspension an immense number of invisible red globules, which red globules constitute one eighth of its entire mass. These red globules are the sources of the peculiar stimulating, vitalizing power of the blood in all our or-

gans. Take them away, the serous fluid which remains is incapable of sustaining human life; diminish their quantity, and, in proportion to their diminution, the constitution becomes debilitated. It has been shown, by a vast number of examinations of the composition of the human blood, that all persons of vigorous constitutions and vigorous health have a large amount of globules, or a richer constitution of their blood, while those of feeble, nervous, scrofulous, lymphatic, languid, and sickly constitutions, have a more impoverished blood; or, in other words, a blood deficient in its essential elements, — the red globules. So uniformly is this the case, that it is laid down as a law, by the most distinguished chemists and pathologists of modern times, that when the red globules of the blood amount to one eighth, or 12½ per cent., the individual is in a fair condition for the enjoyment of health. When the quantity increases from one eighth to one seventh, or 14 per cent., he is in a peculiarly plethoric and vigorous condition, in which condition his temperament is active, his muscles are strong, his brain capable of great exertion, and all the functions of life capable of being carried on with a remarkable vigor. In this robust condition he is less liable to fatigue, less liable to nervous agitation and dangerous diseases. On the contrary, when the proportion of globules in the blood sinks from an eighth to a ninth, or eleven per cent., the individual falls into a state of debility, and is much less able to undergo severe labor, or to resist any tendency to disease. When the blood becomes still more impoverished, greater and greater debility ensues, and, under the ordinary circumstances of life, disease becomes inevitable. The supply of food being defective, each organ is imperfectly nourished, and whenever one organ is brought into very vigorous exercise, it withdraws from other organs what is necessary to maintain their activity. Thus, if the debilitated individual engages in a course of study, he debilitates his muscular system still further; if he engages in manual labor, his brain becomes inactive, he grows dull and stupid; if engaged in close and sedentary application, he becomes dyspeptic; and if his constitution is unable to sustain them, — in short, for want of blood, the vital actions become feeble and unbalanced, the individual degenerates in his mental and physical powers, and if no other form of disease is fastened upon him, by local irritations, he gradually tends to a consumptive or scrofulous condition. Hence the immense mortality of consumption, which in most of our cities sweeps off one sixth of the entire population. Yet, no one ever died of tuberculous consumption without going through this previous course of degeneration of his blood. The immense fields of medical prac-

tice are mainly supplied with their victims from the class of constitutions which have fallen below their normal standard of vitality, and lost their due supply of blood. Few, indeed, are attacked with disease who have maintained the normal composition of their blood, and whose vital powers are sustained by twelve, thirteen, or fourteen per cent. of the red globules. Such being the facts established by the researches of Andral and Gavarret, Majendie, Simon, Becquerel, Rodier, Denis, Lecanu, and a host of other chemical pathologists, it becomes obvious that the great duty of physicians in the preservation of health is, to sustain the normal composition of the blood, and to prevent any impairment of the vital force which resists disease. Knowing, that if this normal composition of the blood could be kept up, consumption, scrofula, and a host of similar diseases of debility would become impossible, it should evidently be the duty of the physician to increase, and not to diminish, those globulous elements of the blood, which are so essential to life, and which never produce any morbid effects.

The evils connected with the blood arise from degeneration and impurities, which nature is vigilant to remove. For this purpose she uses the lungs, the kidneys, the bowels, and the skin, to burn up and evaporate, or to wash away and remove, all noxious elements which impair the health and vitality of the blood. These organs, as arranged by the allwise Creator, are perfectly competent to regulate the blood by removing its impurities, and by discharging any element which is in excess; and while these organs perform their duty properly, it is impossible that the blood should fail to be pure and healthful. If there is any departure from the standard of health, the rational physician, knowing its cause, stimulates some of the flagging organs to a more vigorous performance of their duty, and after he has properly aroused the action of the skin, the bowels, the kidneys, the liver, and the lungs, health is speedily restored. But he who follows antiquated fashions, rather than the lights of modern science, instead of purifying and renovating the blood, through the organs established for that purpose by the divine wisdom, inflicts a wound upon the veins and barbarously spills and destroys the blood, because he has not the skill or the patience to renovate its composition, in accordance with the laws of nature. Yet, what is to be gained by destroying the blood itself, when it has fallen into a morbid condition? After a portion of the blood has been drawn, the remainder is in the same morbid condition as before, while the vital power of the constitution is impaired, just in proportion to the amount which has been lost.

The globules, which are the essential element of the blood, are the product of a mysterious vital power which operates slowly, and are

very difficult to regenerate, while the more worthless, the impure and morbid constituents of the blood, are rapidly reproduced. Water may be absorbed from the stomach and bowels, to fill the blood-vessels, in a few minutes — the albumen may be regenerated in a few days, while the inflammatory and morbid elements of the blood are capable of more rapid production than any other constituents. Thus, after bleeding, we find that the character of the blood is invariably deteriorated; it has less of the vital globules, is of a more serous or watery constitution, and in the majority of cases has more of the inflammatory and noxious elements, with less vital power to resist their formation. Why, then, should a physician ever bleed? Why should he co-operate actually with the disease? Why should he render the patient pale, feeble, and bloodless, when the disease is already accomplishing the task with sufficient rapidity? Why should he attack and destroy the healthful life-giving portion of the blood, when it is only the inflammatory and noxious elements which he is required to expel? Why should he enter the citadel of life, and turn out its garrison, the red globules of the blood, instead of expelling its enemies, the inflammatory, disorganized, and decaying substances, which nature is striving to expel? Why should he not assist the powers of nature in expelling noxious substances through the bowels, kidneys, and skin, and leave the life-sustaining element in the blood, which aids the patient in resisting the ravages of disease, and enables him, when the disease has subsided, to rise speedily from his bed, and resume the active duties of life?

Even supposing the patient should survive the double attack from his disease and from the lancet; supposing that he has retained blood enough in his veins to endure the painful and prostrating attack; he recovers with an exhausted constitution, and it is long before his cadaverous and trembling limbs assume the appearance of health. Long years afterward, he has occasion to refer back to that dreadful attack of fever which shattered his constitution, from the effects of which he has never recovered. But probably he is not aware that the permanent injury to his constitution arose, mainly, from the loss of blood, and that had he been treated in a rational manner, he would have carried through his attack a sufficient amount of blood to have resumed, in a week or two, his wonted habits, with the vigor of limb and the elasticity of spirits which he had formerly enjoyed, and an equal prospect for a long and happy life, since no important portion of his constitution had been lost or greatly impaired.

If such be a fair statement of the ordinary effects of bleeding in medical practice among vigorous constitutions, what is it among the delicate and feeble? To all of feeble constitutions, the depletory system

is a speedy and effectual mode of breaking down what little vitality they have, and inviting the early approach of death. It is not possible for those who have already less than the necessary amount of blood, to lose any material quantity of their vital resources without the production of disease. The pale, feeble, bloodless invalid — the delicate, nervous, and consumptive individual, who fancies himself to enjoy tolerable health, because he is not yet confined to his bed — the dyspeptic, melancholic, languid individuals, whose relaxed muscles are incapable of performing one-fourth the task of a day laborer, who never enjoyed the glorious consciousness of luxurious health and overflowing vital power, are capital material for the devastations of the lancet. As the raw conscripts of Napoleon were considered mere food for gunpowder, so this immense class of feeble constitutions has been, in times past, the food for the lancet. And medical men generally, until a few years past, have so commonly broken down that vitality in consumptive constitutions which they should have built up and renovated, that the idea has become almost immovably fixed in the medical mind, that consumption is an incurable disease. It was, indeed, incurable, when the physician, with lancet in hand, exhausted the vital power, and hastened the patient to his grave ; but under the more rational system, which not only preserves, but builds up the vital powers, not only is consumption curable, in a large proportion of cases, but a larger number of diseases which end in death under the depleting system, end in the full restoration of health and vigor, under the treatment which preserves the blood — the circulating life of the body.

J R Duncan M D

RESOLUTIONS

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

R. Emmett

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

OFFICERS FOR 1871-72.

PRESIDENT, ...	J. R. DUNCAN, M. D. . . .	Chicago, Ills.
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,	C. EDWIN MILES, M. D. . .	Massachusetts.
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT,	ALEXANDER THOMPSON, M. D.	Pennsylvania.
THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT,	V. A. BAKER, M. D.	Michigan.
TREASURER, ...	BENJ. J. STOW, M. D. . .	Brooklyn, N. Y.
SECRETARY, ...	R. A. GUNN, M. D.	New York city.
CORRESPONDING SEC'Y, .	J. M. COMINS, M. D. . . .	New York city.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

J. H. JOHNSTON, M. D., New York; M. F. LINGUIST, M. D., Connecticut; W. S. JOHNSON, M. D., Vermont; L. A. SHATTUCK, M. D., Me.; O. E. NEWTON, M. D., Ohio; HENRY WOHLGEMUTH, M. D., Illinois; J. R. DUNCAN, M. D., Iowa; ALEXANDER THOMPSON, M. D., Pennsylvania; HENRY LONG, M. D., Indiana.

THE SECOND NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

PURSUANT to adjournment, the Association met at Association Hall October 4th, 1871, and the meeting was called to order by the President, J. W. JOHNSON, M. D., of Hartford, Conn.

Rev. J. S. WILLIS opened the exercises with prayer, after which President JOHNSON delivered the opening address briefly, as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: Permit me on this occasion for myself and in behalf of the National Eclectic Medical Association, as its presiding officer, to extend to you a hearty and a generous welcome as delegates to the Second Annual Meeting of the National Society. As members of the great body of liberal-minded physicians, it is fitting and proper that we convene for the purpose of a friendly interchange of thoughts and sentiments on a leading and highly important subject, that of medicine; thus mutually benefiting each other. It gladdens the heart to witness, as I do on this occasion, so large a number representing the several states, North, South, East and West, who have come to the Empire City of the American Continent, not indeed from motives of idle curiosity, but representatives of a great and important National idea — involving important interests, affecting the welfare of the human family —representatives of progress upon a subject of more than ordinary interest.

Many, in order to be present on this occasion, have undoubtedly made great sacrifices and incurred considerable expense. But I sincerely trust and believe that our deliberations will so abound with wisdom and harmony, that all will return to their homes well satisfied, and without a regret.

Nothing is more calculated to enlarge the views and exalt the ideas of the mind upon any subject having for its object the welfare of the human family than a convention of men and minds, to discuss the leading measures relating thereto — and especially is this true of a science intimately relating to the welfare of mankind — that of the "healing art."

Ladies and Gentlemen: Again permit me to extend to each and all of you a cordial and fraternal welcome to this great commercial city, whose interests and trade extend to nearly all parts of the habitable globe; to this colossal building of model architecture; and to this beautiful hall, dedicated to humanity and christianity.

And here I beg to say, that while we hope to be able to provide bountifully in our hospitalities, we can hardly expect to excel the unbounded munificence of our friends in the West, of the great Prairie City, who were lavish in everything pertaining to comfort and diversion, on the occasion of the inauguration of this Society one year ago, and which I doubt not was fully appreciated by the participants. That the generosity of the friends in New York and the East will be ample and prove satisfactory, I fully believe.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope our deliberations will be harmonious and profitable; that all will be benefited thereby; and thus strengthened and fortified in our convictions, we may be enabled to double our diligence in the great cause of humanity; and that our organization, as its name implies, may be strictly National, and become a power in the land by having its efforts and influence strengthened, and thus become firmly established and perpetuated.

Professor R. S. NEWTON, M. D., being introduced, addressed the Association as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: It is made my pleasant duty on behalf of the members of the Eclectic Medical Society of the city of New York and the members of the Academy of Eclectic Medicine of Brooklyn, to welcome you to our great metropolis. I perform this duty the more heartily because I know you do not come as mere individuals, but as representatives of the great school of progress, from every State in our great Union. You have come here to promote the welfare and advance the interests of Eclecticism, without regard to any particular locality. I have been commanded to give you a cordial and fraternal greeting, and to welcome you as our honored guests. The bodies I represent appreciate your presence here to-day in the Convention, and they desire to show that appreciation by every act of courtesy and hospitality.

This being the Second Annual meeting of the Association, this convention of representative men, composed of delegates from so many of our States, consisting of so many leading members of our school of medicine; the earnest, thoughtful practitioners of our profession, the advocates of progress in every department, not only in the great school of medical science, but of every growing interest in our great American Republic, will, I am sure, not only give dignity to the convention, but a proper consideration to the various subjects which shall come under discussion. Your debates, gentlemen, will touch every subject connected with your profession, and all will have a special reference to the fundamental principles of co-operation and progress, and to the grand achievement ever had in view by all lovers of human, scientific and medical advancement.

This Association meets for the specific object of promoting all the interests of the medical profession. Excluding all views of a selfish, exclusive, sectional or partisan character, Eclecticism gathers around its broad banner men of broad views, uninfluenced by local influence or narrow prejudices. The interests of the great medical profession, the interests of the human family, in whatever pertains to its welfare, should be the centralizing and all vitalizing source of action to all who take part in the great work of conservative progress. To "hold fast that which is good," and earnestly seek for the better, is the motto of every Eclectic in Philosophy, Religion and Medicine.

The rapid development, wonderful growth and grand achievements of Eclectic Medicine, should call forth our gratitude to the author of "every good and perfect gift." The very name of Medical Reform awakens vivid recollections in the minds of every member of the profession. The time has come when the medical profession in all its relations to society, to government, and to itself, must be free, independent and untrammeled; no law or dogma should be interposed to prevent each and every professional man from enjoying all the rights and privileges guaranteed to all by the Constitution of the United States, the grand charter of human rights.

You should labor, gentlemen, to sweep away every embarrassment caused by restrictions of any kind. It is surprising that while the medical profession has contributed so largely to increase the sum of human happiness, and advance the general welfare, there is so much indifference felt by the public towards it, and physicians are looked upon as a necessary evil to be tolerated, because they cannot be dispensed with. Progress in science, the fine and mechanic arts, and agriculture, is regarded as the natural result of Providence in the world's development, whereby all things subserve the purposes of the Almighty Ruler, and these activities should be under the fostering care of the public. The medical profession must labor and wait for a better day.

New York city is the home of medical reform. From hence it has spread from State to State, until every town and city feels its influence for good, and, conscious of its proud position in the relation it sustains to medical reform, she hails every son of progress, and in her name I bid you a hearty welcome to-day.

On motion, the Secretary, R. A. GUNN, M. D., read the Minutes of the First Annual Meeting of the Association, which were unanimously adopted.

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by Wm. Molesworth, of Iowa, and resolved, — That the President do now appoint a Committee on Credentials. The following Committee was appointed:

J. H. Johnson, New York ; M. F. Linguist, Connecticut ; W. S. Johnson, Vermont ; L. A. Shattuck, Maine ; O. E. Newton, Ohio ; Henry Wohlgemuth, Illinois ; J. R. Duncan, Iowa ; Alexander Thompson, Pennsylvania ; Henry Long, Indiana.

This Committee then retired to examine credentials, and upon returning to the hall reported the following persons as regularly authorized delegates, and recommended for membership all who were not already members.

Delegates reported by the Committee on Credentials :

Vermont. — W. S. Johnson, M. D. ; A. P. Brown, M. D.

Maine. — L. A. Shattuck, M. D. ; N. R. Martin, M. D.

Massachusetts. — John Stowe, M. D.; C. A. Wheeler, M. D.; Joseph Jackson, M. D. ; H. G. Newton, M. D. ; H. W. Buxton, M. D. ; E. Schofield, M. D. ; M. B. Kenney, M. D. ; Job T. Dickens, M. D. ; H. H. Brigham, M. D. ; A. W. Sidney, M. D. ; R. W. Geddes, M. D.; C. E. Dowelle, M. D. ; H. D. Jilson, M. D. ; Nathaniel Jewett, M. D. ; J. S. Andrews, M. D.

Connecticut. — J. W. Johnson, M. D. ; M. F. Linguist, M. D. ; J. H. Robinson, M. D. ; R. K. Mills, M. D.

New Jersey. — E. S. McClellan, M. D. ; L. H. Borden, M. D. ; Hannah E. Archer, M. D. ; Charles H. Archer, M. D.

New York. — E. S. Preston, M. D.; Edward Fishblatt, M. D.; John H. H. Johnson, M. D. ; Samuel Tuthill, M. D. ; Peter Kelley, M. D. ; Wm. D. Chesebrough, M. D. ; Herman Boskowitz, M. D. ; R. E. Kunze, M. D. ; Wm. Frankard, M. D. ; R. S. Newton, M. D. ; Zatella Ostrander, M. D. ; A. E. Jacobson, M. D. ; H. Pease, M. D. ; John H. Dye, M. D. ; M. E. Bishop, M. D. ; J. B. Jones, M. D. ; Theodore Van Skilline, M. D. ; H. E. Firth, M. D. ; D. E. Smith, M. D. ; P. W. Allen, M. D. ; Alex. Wilder, M. D. ; F. C. Baker, M. D.

Pennsylvania. — Alex. Thompson, M. D.

Indiana. — J. W. Parish, M. D.; Henry Long, M. D.

Michigan. — V. A. Baker, M. D. ; H. L. Baker, M. D. ; H. S. Mc Master, M. D.

Illinois. — H. Wohlgemuth, M. D. ; H. K. Whitford, M. D. ; H. D. Garrison, M. D. ; J. F. Cook, M. D. ; L. C. Washburn, M. D. ; R. F. Bennett, M. D. ; N. Shepardson, M. D. ; J. Milton Bowers, M. D.

Iowa. — J. R. Duncan, M. D. ; Wm. Molesworth, M. D. ; C. E. Witham, M. D.

Nebraska. — H. L. Mathews, M. D.

Nova Scotia. — Thos. R. Fraser, M. D.

Moved by John Stowe, of Massachusetts, seconded by H. Wohlgemuth of Illinois, and resolved, — That the report of the Committee be received, and that we proceed to vote for the acceptance of the Delegates by States. The vote by States being taken, all the delegates were elected members of the Association.

On motion, the newly-elected members were required to complete their membership by signing the Constitution and paying the initiation fee.

Moved by J. M. Comins, of New York, seconded by N. Shepardson, and resolved, — That the Convention do now adjourn, to meet again at half past one o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Association was called to order by President Johnson, at half past one o'clock.

The Committee on Credentials reported progress, recommending the following for membership, viz :

Vermont. — J. M. Templeton, M. D. ; W. H. Templeton, M. D. ; A. Dodge, M. D. ; George Dalton, M. D. ; M. McCleam, M. D. ; James Templeton, M. D. ; Geo. C. Washburn, M. D. ; Henry Bickford, M. D.

Connecticut. — L. S. Luddington, M. D. ; S. B. Munn, M. D. ; J. M. Hursey, M. D.

Massachusetts. — Mrs. Electa A. Brown, M. D. ; H. D. West, M. D.

New York. — Wm. Barker, M. D. ; A. D. Brooks, M. D. ; J. N. Tuthill, M. D. ; Joel C. Hurlbut, M. D. ; T. R. Kinget, M. D. ; Wm. Jones, M. D. ; David Wilcox, M. D.

Moved by R. S. Newton, of New York, seconded by E. S. Preston, and resolved, — That all the officers of this Association and all Presidents of state societies present be requested to take seats on the platform.

Moved by R. S. Newton, seconded by C. E. Witham, and resolved — That a Committee on Nominations be appointed by the President, consisting of one delegate from each State represented, whose duty it shall be to nominate officers for the ensuing year, and that said committee be required to report as soon as the meeting opens Friday morning.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

R. S. Newton, New York; Jas. H. Robinson, Connecticut; H. G. Newton, Massachusetts; A. P. Brown, Vermont; Alexander Thompson, Pennsylvania; A. Potter, Ohio; V. A. Baker, Michigan; J. W. Parrish, Indiana; L. C. Washburn, Illinois; C. E. Witham, Iowa; N. R. Martin, Maine; E. S. McClellan, New Jersey; H. L. Matthews, Nebraska.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Dr. John Stowe, of Massachusetts, as chairman of the Committee on Theory and Practice of Medicine, read an able report on that branch of medical education, and spoke of the difference between the Eclectic system of treatment, and that of other schools. [See Contents.]

In behalf of the Committee on Surgery, R. S. Newton read a full report of the progress of surgery during the last half century, and claimed for Eclectic surgeons that conservatism which has become the most important element of success in the practice of surgery. [See Contents.]

H. D. Garrison, of the Committee on Chemistry and Pharmacopœia, reported on both these subjects, in absence of the Chairman of the Committees. [See Chemistry and Pharmacopœia in Contents.]

R. S. Newton, in behalf of the Eclectic physicians of New York and Brooklyn, extended an invitation to all present to visit Wood's Museum from 4 to 6 P. M., the American Institute Industrial Fair at 8 P. M., and to participate in a steamboat excursion and visit to hospitals and other public charities on Thursday.

Invitations were accepted, and tickets distributed to the delegates.

Moved by R. A. Gunn, seconded by J. M. Comins, and resolved, — That we do now adjourn to meet again in this Hall, on Thursday evening, at half-past seven o'clock.

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Second Day's Proceedings — Thursday, October 5.

At 9 o'clock, A.M., the delegates, their ladies, and a large number of their friends proceeded on a steamboat excursion, and paid a visit to the different Charitable Institutions on Blackwell and Ward's Islands. After the visit to these institutions, the boat steamed down to the lower Quarantine, and all on board passed a very pleasant day.

Evening Session.

The Convention was called to order at 7 o'clock, P. M., by President Johnson in the chair.

C. Edwin Miles, of Mass., Chairman of the Committee on Genæcology, read an able report on that subject, which was warmly received by the members of the Convention present. [For Report see Contents.]

A letter was read from James W. Cowdrey, of Ind., one of the Vice-Presidents, expressing his regrets at being unable to be present at the meeting, and wishing the Association every success.

On motion a vote of thanks was extended to Dr. Cowdrey for the kindly expressions of his letter.

Dr. G. W. Pickerill, of Ind., not being able to attend the meeting, forwarded a paper on Eclectic Medicine, which was read by title and referred to the Committee on Publication. [See Contents.]

At this point the Convention was favored with some excellent music, by the celebrated organist, Mr. Mora, after which the public meeting was inaugurated with prayer by the Rev. C. C. Goss.

Rev. E. C. Sweetster was next introduced as the speaker of the evening. His subject was "Truth and Its Methods," which he handled in an eloquent and masterly manner.

On motion a vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Sweetster for his able address, and he was requested to furnish a copy for publication with the proceedings of the Convention. [For Address, see Contents.]

Music by Mr. Mora, and the Benediction by Rev. C. C. Goss, closed the exercises of the evening.

Third Day's Proceedings — Friday, October 6.

The Convention was called to order at 9 A. M., by President Johnson in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on Nominations being called upon for a report, presented the following:

For President, J. R. Duncan, Iowa; 1st Vice-President, C. Edwin Miles, Massachusetts; 2d Vice-President, Alex. Thompson, Pennsyl-

vania; 3d Vice-President, V. A. Baker, Michigan; Treasurer, Benj. J. Stow, New York; Secretary, R. A. Gunn, New York; Corresponding Secretary, J. M. Comins, New York.

Upon the suggestion of Dr. Wilder, the Act of Incorporation of this Society, passed by the Legislature of the State of New York at its last session, was read before proceeding with the election of officers. After being read the Act was received, and the same was ordered to be placed on record as part of the Constitntion of this Society. [See Contents.]

Moved by P. W. Allen, seconded by Alex. Wilder, and resolved, — That we proceed to the election of officers.

The result of the election was as follows:

For President, . . .	J. R. Duncan, ...	Iowa.
For 1st Vice-President,	C. Edwin Miles, . . .	Massachusetts.
For 2d Vice-President,	Alex. Thompson, . . .	Pennsylvania.
For 3d Vice-President,	V. A. Baker, ...	Michigan.
For Treasurer, . . .	Benj. J. Stow, ...	New York.
For Secretary, . . .	R. A. Gunn, ...	New York.
For Corr. Sec'y, . .	J. M. Comins, ...	New York.

The Committee on Credentials reported progress and recommended for membership John A. Ross, of Minn., A. G. Springsteen, of Iowa, and A. H. Pattee, of Mich.

On motion the report was received, and the above-named persons elected members of the Association.

Moved by E. S. McClellan, seconded by S. B. Munn, and resolved, — That a committee be appointed to conduct the President-elect to the Chair.

Drs. McClellan, Munn, and Allen were appointed as such committee.

J. R. Duncan, the President-elect, upon taking the Chair, thanked the Convention for the honor conferred upon him in electing him to the honorable position of President of this Association.

Ex-President Johnson, on retiring from the Chair, delivered an able valedictory address, which was heartily applauded. [See Contents.]

Moved by V. A. Baker, seconded by J. M. Comins, and resolved, — That the thanks of the Convention be presented to the retiring President, Dr. J. W. Johnson, for his services as presiding officer during the past year, and for his able address just delivered, and that the said address be handed to the Secretary for publication.

Moved by S. B. Munn, seconded by Wm. Molesworth, and resolved, — That the Vice-Presidents-elect be invited to take seats upon the platform.

Moved by H. G Newton, seconded by J. M. Comins, and resolved, — That a committee, to consist of one delegate from each State represented in the Convention, be appointed by the Chair to recommend to the Convention a time and place for the holding of its next annual meeting.

The President appointed as such Committee the gentlemen before appointed as the Committee on Nomination of Officers.

R. A. Gunn said: There is one subject that ought to be considered by the Convention for a moment and decided, viz., What shall be the amount of the annual dues from each member? I think this point should be determined now, so that delegates may pay their dues during the day. In order to take the sense of the Convention, I move that two dollars be the annual dues required from each member of the Association.

Dr. Gunn's motion was seconded by N. Shepardson, and carried.

The Committee appointed to recommend to the Convention a place and time for its next meeting, reported in favor of Cleveland, Ohio, for the place, and the 4th Wednesday in September, 1872, for the time.

Moved by S. B. Munn, and seconded by H. G. Newton, that the Report of the Committee be accepted, and the place and time recommended be adopted.

By request of the Convention the motion was divided, and the part of it referring to the place of meeting was first voted upon and carried unanimously.

On the vote upon the time of meeting being put, Alexander Wilder moved to amend the motion by substituting the second Wednesday in July for the fourth Wednesday in September.

The amendment was lost, and the original motion carried in full.

The Convention took a recess shortly after 12 o'clock, till 1.30 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Convention was called to order again at 1.30 P.M., by President Duncan, in the Chair.

The Chairman of the standing committees of the States were called upon for their Reports. The following were the only Reports presented:

Dr. S. B. Munn, Chairman of the Standing Committee from Connecticut, said: I have no written report to make from Connecticut. We have, I believe, about fifty members in our society, and there are about seventy-five eclectic physicians in the State. Several more of these we expect to join the society. We, as a Society, have been laboring under the same misfortune as our brethren in other States, having a great deal of opposition to contend with. A few years ago the Society went for a little time under another name, but in time it advanced again, and now we are getting along finely. Every year there are acquisitions to our ranks. About half a dozen joined our Society at its last meeting, and I presume it will continue to increase for some time to come. The interest in the Eclectic practice is increasing in my community, and throughout the State there is a great demand for Eclectic physicians. There is room enough for four times as many as there are now. If any Eclectic physicians in other States don't know where to locate, we can invite them to come there. We won't feed them on wooden hams, but on something much better.

H. G. Newton, Chairman of the Standing Committee of Massachusetts, read a report on the standing of Eclecticism in that State. [See Contents.]

Robert S. Newton said: It becomes my painful duty to read to this Convention the announcement of the death of A. W. Russell, a member of the State Medical Society, at Albany, New York. The Doctor, it seems, died on the 3rd of July. He was one of the delegates appointed to this Convention, and if he had lived would probably have been with us. He was for many years an active and energetic man in the support of eclectic medicine.

J. R. Duncan reported the death of Dr. Wm. Covington, who became a member of the Association at Chicago. The Doctor was a prominent Eclectic of Iowa, and came to his death from injuries received by being thrown from his carriage while making a professional call in the night.

H. G. Newton moved that a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to draft resolutions expressing the feeling of the Convention toward Drs. Russell and Covington, deceased. Carried.

The President appointed as such Committee, Drs. H. G. Newton, P. W. Allen, and Alex. Wilder.

Robert S. Newton said: I have received a letter from Dr. O. E. Newton, of Cincinnati, informing me that severe illness confining him to his bed prevents him attending this Convention. He wishes me to say to the Convention that under all circumstances he is with

it in all its efforts and in all its operations, and that, wherever you go and whatever you do, he will endeavor to co-operate with you at all times and in all places. You are well aware that he has taken a very deep interest in this Association, and, had his health permitted him to come, several delegates from Ohio would have accompanied him to this Convention.

Dr. W. S. Johnson, Chairman of the Standing Committee from Vermont, read the report of the Committee on the present status of Eclecticism in that State. [See Contents.]

No other Reports from State Standing Committees were presented. Those handed in were accepted and referred to the Committee on Publication.

John Stowe, by permission of the Convention, gave an explanation of an apparatus arranged by him for holding the lower jaw in position in cases of fracture. Also, an apparatus for treating fractures of the clavicle. He exhibited the apparatus upon a patient. [For description, see Contents.]

Dr. Alexander Thompson said: The apparatus lacks one thing yet. It keeps the jaw in its place on the outside, but it is necessary to secure it in some way on the inside. This I have remedied in two cases, by calling on the dentist of our place and having him make a plate like the plate used for artificial teeth for the lower jaw. In the first case it was made of gutta percha, without being hardened. In the second case, a cast was taken and that cast was hardened and placed in the mouth. You will readily see that, with this adjusted, it would be impossible to move the broken bones upon each other. It is necessary, you see, to add to that by extracting a tooth, or to keep the mouth open by means of a piece of gutta percha, so that fluids could be passed in without any stress on the jaw.

Dr. Stowe said: I do not claim perfection; I only claim an advance. I know that something is necessary for the inside of the mouth. As for extracting a tooth, it is entirely unnecessary. It is one of those relics of the old practice which are so hard to get by. I have had a broken jaw of the most perfect teeth, and dressed it with a bandage in the old way, and got along with it perfectly. It is almost impossible for a dentist to make teeth so perfect that liquids will not go through them.

Dr. Thompson: I did not intend to say that I would in any case extract a tooth, or recommend the practice. I merely said there should some way be devised to pass liquids into the mouth. I suggest the plate, as I have used it in two or three cases. Speaking of liquids getting round the gums and teeth, you that are using artifi-

cial teeth know that there is little inconvenience from wearing them, and the plate I suggest can be worn with just as little.

Dr. Stowe: In using a bandage, there is pressure against the cheeks, whereas in using artificial teeth there is none.

Dr. M. M. Fenner, of Fredonia, N. Y., offered the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, That the National Eclectic Medical Association, in convention assembled in the city of New York, recognizes the present and growing evil of intemperance, and that its members hereby pledge themselves in their individual as well as corporate capacity to use their influence in every way proper for its abatement and suppression.

RESOLVED, That this Association is pained to have to acknowledge that certain men of the country who call themselves eclectic doctors, have, in time past, and, doubtless, are still selling the diplomas of doctors of medicine to persons unauthorized to receive them; and that we hereby pronounce our unqualified condemnation of such unlawful and wicked proceedings, as well as against all doctors and colleges concerned therein.

RESOLVED, That this Association represents over eight thousand competent practitioners of medicine throughout the United States and Canadas, who are in no way responsible for the stigma thus liable to attach to the name that designates our branch of the profession on account of such sale of medical diplomas.

RESOLVED, That this Association pledges its influence in the maintenance of the highest standard of medical education consistent with law and the customs of the times.

RESOLVED, That the growing evil of the practice of abortion, perpetrated, as we believe, by the off-shoots from every branch of the profession, is an abuse justly alarming to society; and that we hereby record our unqualified condemnation of this wicked and criminal practice, and also of all physicians, of whatever school, who engage in it.

RESOLVED, That while this convention is in favor of the largest liberty in respect to the business of the profession, we nevertheless desire to express our disapproval of the vending by physicians of patent or proprietary remedies, or of boastful advertisements in whatever sense, whether in the public press or in medical journals.

The resolutions were adopted.

R. S. Newton, Chairman of the Publishing Committee of three appointed by the Convention of Chicago last year to act in concert with the Executive Committee of that body in collating and editing such part of the proceedings as they thought worthy of publication, reported that in view of the alterations that might be made and the new business that might be brought forward in the present Convention, the Committees had thought it best to delay the publication of those proceedings until after the adjournment of the present Convention. The preparations for publishing had, however, been made and the matter was all ready.

E. S. McClellan moved that the Report of the Committee be accepted and the Committee continued and authorized to edit and publish the proceedings of both Conventions. Carried.

H. G. Newton moved that the Secretary be requested to forward bills to each member of the Association who have not paid their yearly dues of two dollars. Carried.

R. S. Newton moved that the names of all persons who have been elected as members of this Association, who do not complete their membership, after being duly called upon by the Secretary of the Association, be dropped from the list of membership, and that their names do not appear in any of the published transactions of the Association. Carried.

R. S. Newton said: I would inform this Convention at this time that there is a medical association, called the Eclectic Medical Association of Great Britain, which is now in full and successful operation. Our allopathic friends call us radical, but this Association of which I speak is far more so. Its influence and power are such that at the last parliament they came within three votes of repealing the entire medical laws of England, and I would almost as soon have expected to see the laws of astronomy changed. This Association has been writing to us here, and sending us journals and papers. They have recently organized in London an Association by special charter called the Association of Foreign Graduates, and with this association they have admitted as members the graduates of all the schools of the world, all who will unite in opposition to those laws in England which prevent Eclectics from having equal rights and advantages as others under those laws. But I would say to-day that some of the strongest men in Europe have become members. They have sent us a list of their members, and it is composed of graduates of the Royal colleges of London, Edinburgh and Dublin, several of whom have received honorary degrees in this country. They propose to have their next meeting in a few months, and in view of that I offer the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That we send a greeting to the Eclectic Medical Association of Great Britain, and recognize their efforts in behalf of liberal medicine on the other side of the Atlantic, and as proof of our heart-felt sympathy and co-operation we appoint a delegate to represent this body at their next annual meeting.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion of J. M. Comins, an article upon "Renal Calculi in the Bovine," by Dr. G. W. Carpenter, was received by title and ordered to be printed in the proceedings. The article was accompanied by specimens of Bovine Calculi for the inspection of the Convention. [See Contents.]

P. W. Allen, from the Committee appointed to draft resolutions respecting the late Drs. A. W. Russell and W. Covington, reported the following:

RESOLVED, That the National Eclectic Medical Society now assembled in the city of New York, having received the announcements of the death of Dr. A. W. Russell, of Albany, on the 31st of July last, and of Dr. W. Covington, of Iowa, desire emphatically to

express our most sincere grief at the loss of such useful and distinguished brother physicians.

RESOLVED, That this Society recognizes in the decease of Dr. Russell the loss of one of the early, constant, and most devoted friends of Reform Medicine, both in the State of New York and throughout our common country; the loss of one whose moral qualities, intellectual culture, social graces, and professional attainments had deeply attached us.

RESOLVED, That we also recognize in the death of Dr. Covington, a great loss to the reform practice of medicine in the west, and the loss of one who was loved and respected by all who knew him.

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be entered upon our records, be published in the "Eclectic Medical Review," and be sent to his afflicted family.

The resolutions were adopted.

The Secretary, R. A. Gunn, said: At the last session of the National Eclectic Association held in Chicago, we were about in the same condition as we are to-day—we had a great deal of business to transact, and found it almost impossible to get over the ground. No report was made at that time with regard to the expenditure of the Association in Chicago. I will now briefly state the condition of affairs at that time. There was received from members of the Convention in Chicago, $460. The expenses for hall, stationery, printing, postage, and a few incidental expenses, were $141.10, leaving a balance of 324.90, which was handed over to the Treasurer. Out of this 324.90 there have been, of course, a great many bills paid since then, and there are a great many others not yet presented; and as one of the Executive Committee, I will have to ask for the Committee a little time to make out the Report in full.

On motion of Dr. Newton, a vote of thanks was given to the officers of the Hospital on Ward's Island, for their courtesy in showing the institution to the members of the Convention, viz.: Leonard R. Welles, Warden; I. D. Krehbire, Dep. Warden; George Ford, Resident Physician; John Dwyer, Resident Surgeon; Philip Essoger, Assist. Physician.

Also to James W. Smythe, Esq., Warden of the Lunatic Asylum and of the Epileptic and Paralytic Hospital, for a similar favor.

Also to Mr. Mora for his kindness in performing on the organ at the social gathering of the members of the Convention on the preceding evening.

The Secretary reported the following additional names approved by the Committee on Credentials for members of the association:

C. C. Johnson, M. D., New York; F. D. Whitney, M. D., Whitney Point, N. Y.; R. J. Burton, M. D., New York; J. I. Dickens, M. D., Mass.; Margaret A. Miller, M. D. New York; Benjamin F. Chapman, M. D. Brooklyn; Mrs. S. C. Bingham, M. D. Mass.; A. P. Parsons, M. D. Forestville, N. Y.; G. W. Carpenter, M. D., Forestville, N. Y.; M. M. Fenner, M. D. Fredonia, N. Y.; R. P. Crandall, M. D., Greene, N. Y.

R. F. Bennett moved that the Report be adopted and the persons recommended received as members. Carried.

E. Whitney: I would like to inquire whether there can be any addition made to the list of subjects named for discussion at the next annual meeting?

The President: It is within the power of the Convention to make any addition to the list it sees fit.

Dr. Whitney: I would suggest, then, that the "Physiological Action of Remedies" be added to the list of subjects, and that a Committee be appointed to report thereon at the next annual meeting.

In order to make our practice rational we must know something in reference to the action of remedies. I notice in looking over the special subjects for discussion and in all the discussions that have taken place at this Convention and in the papers that have been here read, the action of remedies has not been referred to. It seems to me that as we are making progress, or believe we are, and certainly we have made great progress within the last twenty-five years, we might examine and investigate the action of remedies, so that when we make a prescription we can make one on the basis of science and adapt our remedial agents to the wants of the system. This is a very extensive field, which has not yet been occupied, and one which lies as near the foundation of all practice as almost any which can be named. Indeed I believe it is of the first importance to the physician to know the precise physiological action of a remedy, and I am one of those that believe that all remedial agents have a direct action physiologically and can be administered on the principle of pathology and the wants of the system, so as to secure at least some degree of certainty to the results. And on this subject we need investigation, and so long as we neglect the physiological action of remedies and administer them simply on the ground of their recommendation, or because they are considered good, or because they have produced heretofore in some cases favorable results, we are administering our remedies and are practicing on the principle of empiricism and that, I think, is one of those principles which you do not like to encourage.

The President: There is quite an able committee appointed here on *materia medica*, and one on new remedies, which have not reported. Had they reported I presume they would have covered all the ground that the doctor speaks of. The committees will be re-appointed.

H. G. Newton moved that a committee on location be appointed by the Chair to obtain information in regard to desirable locations

for physicians and to correspond with any who may desire to change their location. Carried.

The President appointed P. W. Allen, of New York, as such committee.

R. S. Newton: The importance of our pharmacopœia is such that although it is left to the Chair to appoint the committee on that head I would beg leave to suggest the following names: H. D. Garrison, E. S. McClellan, I. Y. E. Greave and J. Milton Sanders. I would move that these gentlemen be appointed at the present time by the meeting on that committee. Carried.

Dr. Robert S. Newton invited the members of the Convention to visit the New York Eclectic Medical College, of which he is President, and said: We have so far as room is concerned as ample accommodation for seventy-five or a hundred students, as there is in this city. We have not yet as extensive apparatus as other colleges, but so far as room is concerned we have as good an amphitheatre, as good arrangements and ample accommodation for as many students as we expect to get for some time. Although the exterior of the building is not so grand as some buildings yet the finishing and tendency of the inside I think will compare with any, and is perhaps more beautiful than any building here. One thing I wish the profession to understand, that any student who enters any medical college in the city of New York is entitled to all the privileges of all the hospitals, or at least as many as he can attend, and no student of any college has any superior advantages over those of any other. The hospitals of this city are under the control of the Commissioners of Charities, the Chairman of whom was with us yesterday, and the ticket issued by the faculty of the Eclectic Medical Colleges admits their students to the same advantages as one issued by Bellevue or any other college.

Dr. V. A. Baker exhibited specimens of a curious worm passed from the bowels of a patient of his during a period of two and a half years.

The most of the business of the Convention having been transacted several of the more prominent delegates were here called upon for addresses.

Dr. Robert S. Newton said: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Convention, I do not propose at this late hour and at the close of the exercises of this Association whose meeting has been so pleasant and agreeable to all to inflict upon you a speech. But I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing my feelings to this Convention, without saying to you that I feel highly gratified

at the success which has attended this meeting. I, in common with many that are before me now, have labored for many years with the prospect in view that ultimately I might see and know that the National Eclectic Medical Association of the United States was established upon a foundation, governed by principles, manned by such effort, co-operated in by such men, that nothing could destroy it. I ask this Convention to say if these anticipations have been realized to any extent, or not. I ask this Convention if there is a man who will leave it at its final adjournment who will not feel and say that it was good to be here, who does not feel encouraged, whose determination and zeal have not been increased; and if we have sometimes been weak and wavering in our faith and allowed doubts to arise in our minds whether we should triumph or not, has not that all been removed since we came here? We have been surrounded by circumstances of a peculiar character. It was shown to you in some brief remarks to-day by one of our friends, that this is the nucleus and this is the foundation upon which a party or organization is being built which must tumble other associations to the ground. All that is necessary now is that we shall be true to the cause, that we shall be true to ourselves, that we shall be just to ourselves and to all with whom we are connected or associated in the profession of medicine. I say to you to-day that I feel to rejoice not only at the good which has been realized in this meeting, but at the good which will continue to arise for months and for years to come. And now, all we have got to do is to go on, cautiously and slowly it may be, but having taken hold of the plough, the gospel plough, it is said we never should look back. Our growth is gradual, our strength is gradual, our influence now is wonderful, and it is only for us to continue as we have begun.

From the beginning of the organization of the State Society in this State, and from the beginning of the organization of the State Societies in nearly all the States, within the last five or six years, so far as I know, there has been no dissension, there has been no schism; and so far as the organization of this Association is concerned, there has been no ill-feeling among those who have been connected with it; there has been no dissension, but one united feeling and one united determination. Gentlemen, we invited you to our city; we have been rejoiced to know that some nineteen States have been represented in person (applause), and also the British Dominion has been represented here. If this is not cheering, I do not understand the meaning of the term. We have endeavored to make this meeting as pleasant and as agreeable as we could, to

you, and we hope that by the time you have finished up, as we expect to have you do, in the lower part of the city to-night, not only the outward, but the inward man will be entirely satisfied. [Applause.] It is not always the greatest number or the largest body that accomplishes the greatest amount of good. We have now assumed, and occupy a position which must succeed. I believe that the time has come when every man connected with Eclectic Medical Reform, and especially with Eclecticism, should work. We have been opposed by so many and under such peculiar circumstances, that we feel now that it is our duty to resist; that it is our duty to go on regardless of all opposition, keeping to the truth, and ever keeping the great object in view, the final triumphant success of our practice of medicine (applause). This reform has been so gradual that we have hardly realized it; but when you take twenty years and compare what each item was, or method of the practice of medicine, the doctrine of the books, and the doctrine of the schools, and more particularly the practice of the practitioner, you will see the change and the advance. A man holding the position of a teacher of medicine promulgates a doctrine, and there are thousands over the country to demonstrate that theory or opinion, influencing the profession at large, and this is the way in which the great reform in medicine is to be brought about. It is not the opinion of a single teacher or writer, but the combined experience of the practitioners all over the country, in regard to diseases and in regard to the action of remedies, which must do the work. Our practitioners all over the country are now established in good practice; so much so that it is almost impossible to keep them together three days in a Convention. Their practice is of such a character that they are actually obliged to return home to take care of their patients. Those are not willing to go into the hands of any other practitioners but our own. [Applause.] It is a rare thing now to hear of an eclectic physician anywhere in the United States that is not making a handsome living for himself and his family. We hear this everywhere, and we see many of our physicians becoming wealthy, and not only rich in this world's goods, but in knowledge and proficiency in their profession. I thank you for your indulgence in permitting me to make these few remarks. I have tried during this Convention to keep from talking much, and you know that is hard for me to do. I hope you will all be at the supper to-night, and show what kind of appetites Eclecticism and good health will give.

Wm. Molesworth moved: That the thanks of the National Eclectic Medical Association be tendered to the Eclectic Medical Society of

the city of New York, and the Brooklyn Academy of Eclectic Medicine, for the very hospitable manner in which its members have been entertained in this city. Carried.

H. D. Garrison, of the Bennett Medical College, said: When we first started our College we advertised pretty liberally. I believe in advertising in a proper manner. I set my face against that untruthful and boastful advertising that is resorted to by travelling physicians and quack doctors; but fair, open, honest advertising of location, etc., I think is entirely right. We advertised enough for a year to make every one know that we had a college in the Northwest Territory. At first we had pretty rough sliding. Eclecticism had been till then represented by some very indifferent persons, who travelled about in that country calling themselves Eclectics. It is very unfortunate for us that a large number of the most arrant quacks in the country call themselves Eclectics. Now, in a general sense, nearly all physicians are eclectics. The Allopaths and the Homœopaths, I believe, are eclectics in intention, though exceedingly conservative in practice. The term eclectic, however, has come to represent a class of persons, who, to a certain extent, form a sect. I suppose, that in point of fact, Methodists and Presbyterians and Baptists are Christians, but yet we speak of a sect called by that name. So with regard to the term Eclectic: the term is applied to certain physicians who have graduated at certain medical schools, and who practise according to certain principles. But a great many, as I have said, have called themselves Eclectics, who were unworthy, and we had to overcome the prejudice thus produced against the name. I think at Chicago we have overcome that prejudice pretty effectually. I think every person who has graduated at our college has a good standing. None of them has been sued for malpractice or been connected with patent medicines. There is plenty of room in Chicago for more practitioners. It is a city of 350,000 inhabitants. It has doubled its population in five years, and will, I believe, double it again in the next five years, or very nearly. On every hand there are new buildings going up, and yet there are no buildings to rent. The tide of emigration flowing there is perfectly wonderful. I have been about five and a half years there, and I am accounted one of the oldest inhabitants. For our college we have secured a very showy kind of building. I believe something in show myself. I believe in good appearances. We have got a double width building, four stories high, in about the center of the city. We don't own it, but we pay the rent on it. The Legislature very liberally granted us a very valuable charter, which gives us fifty

thousand dollars of capital free from taxation; and those who live in New York know what freedom from taxation would be worth. That is understood in Chicago as well as in New York, for they are making there all kinds of public improvements, parks and boulevards, and I suppose stealing as much as they can, too, so that we have got to pay about five per cent. tax on our capital. The journal in connection with our College, the *Chicago Medical Times*, was started under somewhat inauspicious circumstances, but is now paying its way, and comes out very promptly and in a very clean manner. I am very proud of that journal. To our colleges we owe Eclecticism to a very large extent. They are the fountains from which it comes, and if the fountains dry up of course the stream by and by will become very small. I wish we had more Eclectic colleges. I am not one of those who would oppose them or limit the number. I think colleges could be established at St. Louis, at San Francisco, at Boston, at New Orleans, and at Atlanta, Georgia, which are all good points. Students can be got by rating the fee at prices such as are current. They will go to an Eclectic college as well as any other, especially if the lectures are good and thorough. We shall have twenty-five students from Chicago, probably, this fall,—as large a representation as any other college in it, probably. I feel like saying a good deal more, for my heart is in this work, but the time is short, and I beg to thank you for the attention you have given me while I have been making these remarks.

P. W. Allen, of the New York Eclectic Medical College, said: I am very happy to have heard the brother speak for his institution, as I should be happy to speak for our own, if I had time. We want you all to understand that we would like to have eclectic colleges flourishing everywhere, providing they deserve it, and I believe that the college represented by the brother does deserve it. Almost everything connected with this Convention has been a success, and yet there are one or two points that might, perhaps, be made more of a success another year, and I want to make a suggestion here, so that we shall make our conventions valuable. Each man that comes here makes a great sacrifice to come, and he wants something that shall pay him for coming. As our organization grows older, we should have more valuable papers read here. Now, there have been very few papers presented here—very few valuable facts. Those committees that have been appointed to prepare papers on important subjects ought to do so. And then I trust that it is understood by this Convention, that any member who is in good standing in the profession may present a paper here. It need not be read, but when

the transactions of the Convention are read, you get it. Certainly, in a profession that is so rich in its remedies, we ought to have a great many valuable suggestions. In this regard, I think our Convention should be improved another year; and I throw out the suggestion to impress this on your minds. Come prepared to give us some facts that shall enlighten us. One other point. That matter of the Pharmacopœia is of great importance, and I congratulate the Convention that it has got so good a committee on that work. And yet I want to throw out one hint in regard to that subject. I think if we were to adopt some new name for our Pharmacopœia it would be well. There are now, the London Pharmacopœia, the Dublin Pharmacopœia, the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, and the United States Pharmacopœia. It confuses the medical writers who take their recipes from these different pharmacopœias; and not only that; unless a man has got all of them he cannot tell the ingredients of a medicine. Now, I would suggest a Pharmacopœia and a Dispensatory in one book. Then we get the rules for the formation of particular compounds, and the commentaries on them in one book. And then, too, the greatest work that a young physician has to do in the first three years of his practice, is to know what to throw away. He goes to his Dispensatory for one article, and another article, and for the world he does not know which is best. There is four times as much said about remedies as there is need for. It would be an infinite advantage to have every line of that work reliable, so that it could be depended on. I think a work could thus be made up, all included in a thousand pages, much smaller than the present American Pharmacopœia of Professor King, which would be not only a Pharmacopœia and a Dispensatory, but would have a pharmaceutical index, as well as an alphabetical index of the diseases treated. I would not have it called by any of the old names, but something new. I would not call it a Pharmacopœia, but a *Biblio Medico*,—from *biblos*, book, and *medico*, to cure. Book of Curatives, Book of Remedies: there it is, scientific and expressive. Then, when "B. M." is referred to, the whole world will know what has been originated and developed by the Eclectics of this country. And then we shall have a distinctive text-book, just what we want for the practice of the Eclectics of this country.

H. D. Garrison said: One word more is suggested to me by the remarks of Professor Allen. In my observations relative to our college at Chicago, I made no allusion to the college here,—that has been pretty well represented. We have the kindest feelings toward the New York College, and extend to it our heartiest sympathy.

We would not by any means detract from it; indeed we feel like building it up by every means possible, so long as it maintains the strict rectitude which has marked its course hitherto. In speaking of selling diplomas, I might be thought to allude to this institution. I never knew that it sold diplomas. I presume that at our next meeting we shall have more time for the discussion of medical subjects. It is not every one that can prepare a paper or make an eloquent address, but every one can do something in the way of discovering new remedies, or some fact in medicine or disease. Let each one make himself a committee to find out something to present to the Convention, and we shall have at least a hundred facts. Sometimes days, or weeks, or months, or a year passes, without my discovering a new medical fact. If I could hear of a hundred at once, it would be a great acquisition. But we should prune our facts as if we were going to patent them. When an inventor applies for a patent, he often finds that his invention has been invented before. It is one thing to make a really new discovery, and another thing to discover something that has been discovered before, or to discover it in a book, as is often done. The attention of the world is aroused by facts. You cannot present a really new fact without creating a sensation in the medical world.

Robert S. Newton presented, by title, a paper written by Thomas R. Fraser, M. D., of Nova Scotia.

The Secretary, R. A. Gunn, moved that the paper be referred to the Publishing Committee. Carried.

The Paper is entitled as follows: "Atomic Magnetism, or the Inherent Force in Atoms as the Cause of all Natural Forces and Phenomena; its Law is the Law of Reproduction."

H. L. Stewart, Esq., of New York, said: This idea of a National Association, or organizing and putting together in a united and compact form the energy, the professional skill, and the trained power, which have grown up under influences of Eclecticism all over the country, was the leading idea that struck me at the very outset of the State Medical Society in this State. I have always believed in the motto, "united we stand, divided we fall." I have always believed that no great progressive movement could be made, successfully made, without men and women joining together to carry it out. That I believe,—and I have watched the progress of the idea for the last five or six years,—to be the true basis of a sound professional Eclecticism. To-day, for the first time in the history of modern medicine, you find a National Association of educated and trained physicians, who have devoted their whole lives to the profession,

who have won a national and world-wide fame, meeting together and making no objection that their mothers, wives and sisters should come into professional competition with them. This is a sight that angels may look down upon and see with joy. One of the truest and best friends of Eclecticism,—a man I had hoped to see here,—has from the very outset labored to secure that result, although, I am sorry to say, that he and I differ somewhat in respect to the means for accomplishing it. Horace Greeley, editor of the *Tribune*, [applause], at the very outset of this movement for the establishment of a college was asked to become a trustee. He said, "No; I will give to Eclecticism all the support I can, but others must take the official positions. I believe in Eclecticism everywhere; but if you are going to found a college, you must admit women to a chance for professional honors." There are those who believe that Mr. Greeley is opposed to equal rights for women; but, so far as women are seeking equal rights of education and professional employment, he has been a loyal and astanc h friend; and it is a strange thing that during this Convention not a word has been said about it, except the preliminary notice in his great and powerful paper. I think you have made a capital selection in making Cleveland the place for your next meeting. It is on the opposite side of the great State of Ohio, from Cincinnati. You will have the opportunity of getting a splendid lake breeze, and you will find persons there liberally disposed to Eclecticism. The existence of this National Association, and of the State Associations and colleges, together with the suggestions made here, and the bright prospects held out, give us hope that the good time is coming and will soon be here when we shall have a true medical gospel, and have it so preached that every one can understand it. [Applause].

At 4.30 P. M., the Convention adjourned, to meet in Cleveland, Ohio, on the third Wednesday (18th) of September, 1872.

Banquet at Freese's Commercial Hotel.

On the evening of the last day of the Convention, the Eclectic Physicians of New York and Brooklyn invited the delegates and their ladies to a sumptuous Banquet given at Freese's Commercial Hotel. About three hundred invited guests sat down to partake of the bounteous repast, and, after ample justice had been done to the

good things prepared for the feasting of the inner man, the company enjoyed an intellectual treat in the happy after-dinner speeches of the occasion.

The following were the toasts of the evening:

1. "The President of the United States." Response by H. L. Stewart, Esq.

2. "The Charitable Institutions of New York." Response by Ex-President J. W. Johnson, of Connecticut.

3. "The Eclectic Physicians of New York and Brooklyn." Response by R. S. Newton, of New York, and H. E. Firth, of Brooklyn.

4. "The East." Response by John Stowe, of Massachusetts.

5. "The West." Response by J. R. Duncan, of Iowa, President.

6. "Eclecticism." Response by R. A. Gunn, of New York, Secretary.

7. "The Lady Physicians of America." Response by Maria B. Hayden, of New York.

8. "The Clergy." Response by Rev. J. S. Willis.

9. "The Press of New York." Response by Geo. W. Chester, Esq., of Pomeroy's Democrat.

10. "Chicago, the Birth-Place of the National Eclectic Medical Association." Response by H. D. Garrison, Illinois.

Rev. C. C. Goss was next called upon and delivered a short, but very humorous address.

At 12 o'clock, the gathering broke up, and, while the farewell words were being spoken, all the guests expressed themselves as highly delighted with the supper, the Convention, and their visit to New York.

TRUTH AND ITS METHODS.

A PUBLIC ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, IN NEW YORK, OCT. 5th, 1871.

BY REV. E. C. SWEETSTER.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: There is nothing like consistency. It is indeed a jewel of the rarest kind. This Convention evidently has its share of it. At least so I judge from what few opportunities I have had for gaining an insight into its ways. By profession it is thoroughly eclectic, I believe; and, from the fact that I am here to speak to you to-night, I infer that in its practice it is thoroughly eclectic too. I do not see how else it could have happened. The true eclectic is logically bound to try everything, no matter how unpromising it may at first appear, and to take it for what it proves to be worth upon a fair experiment. Following out this principle, I suppose the Committee on Public Exercises for this evening decided to experiment upon you with a dose of down-town minister. I happened to be the sample that they pitched upon. They tried the same experiment last year upon a smaller scale, using the same poor sample they are using now, but declared themselves not satisfied, owing, they said, to the smallness of the dose. So they came to me again to get me to inflict myself upon you more extensively, hoping this time, I suppose, to witness some determining effects either of a hopeful or unhopeful character. Not satisfied with the experiment as tried on homœopathic principles, they have determined to repeat it upon allopathic principles—that is it, I fancy. I could but yield to so very complimentary an invitation; and so I am here to offer you some hastily-arranged ideas upon the subject of

TRUTH AND ITS METHODS.

—A roomy subject certainly, and affording ample scope for a free exercise of one's eclectic impulses. I will try, however, not to

wander over too much ground, but to confine myself to a single general line of thought. Lend me your ears, as the old Roman said.

Many years ago, a certain wise man of the Hebrew nation declared that it was the glory of God to conceal a thing, but that the honor of kings was to search out a matter. It is as true to-day as it was in the days of Solomon, and not only in regard to kings, but in regard to all men without distinctions of rank or power. It is the glory of God, or, at all events, it accords with his glory, to conceal many things from the knowledge of men which it would be profitable for them to understand; not absolutely and forever to conceal them, but conditionally, and till such a time as men shall have complied with his requirements concerning them. Truth is largely hidden from the world. There is a great deal of truth to be known, and, as yet, we know comparatively little of it. The rest remains to be discovered. Our chief glory lies in finding it out and applying it. I shall not enter into any philosophical discussion as to the reasons why the Lord has thus arranged things. I simply call attention to the fact that while some truths are self-evident to the mind of man, coming to him without any sensible effort on his part, and while the Lord has seen fit to reveal some other truths through chosen messengers, still the greater part of truth is naturally hidden from mankind, and is only to be reached by men as they go out in search of it; only as they seek for it and toil for it. It is so with speculative truth and with practical truth, equally in the realms of philosophy and of the arts and sciences. The physical and spiritual worlds are full of truths which they will not disclose except to him who searches diligently after them, and who obeys the laws by which alone their coverings can be removed. "Nature is commanded by obeying her," was Bacon's motto; and so it is, and the condition on which she may be commanded to reveal her truths is strict obedience to the rules she has laid down for their discovery. Unless this condition is complied with, she remains as silent as the tomb, and holds her secrets as unrelentingly. If a man wishes to know the truths of mathematics, he must set himself to studying the proper books. If he wishes to know the truths of geology, he must examine the earth with the hammer and the microscope. If he wishes to know the truths of astronomy, he must consent to spend long months in learning to use the proper instruments, and in using them when their use is learned. If he wishes to know the truths of medicine, he must follow nature's dictates there, and so on in every department of human knowledge. Truth

is hidden everywhere, and it must be sought out with diligence, and by the help of proper methods, in order to be appropriated and enjoyed by men. All the wishes in the world without such labor will not avail to extort from nature a single truth. The heavens have no language for an idle man, or for one who adopts a wrong method in regard to them; the earth says nothing to such a one; no rock will reveal its history; no plant will unfold its medicinal properties; the sea rolls in a voiceless billow at his feet; and his fellow-men, with all their needs and capacities, are a perfect mystery to him. Truth is hidden, and yet it is the thing that men most need, some men especially. The world is asking for it everywhere. From every side the cry of Pilate, "What is truth?" disturbs the peaceful atmosphere, and betokens the unsatisfied condition of the bodies, minds, and souls of men. It is repeated in a thousand forms: the preacher at his desk, the student at his books, the chemist in his laboratory, the physician in the sick room or among his medicines, the surgeon with his scalpel, the astronomer at his telescope, and the machinist at his working-bench, all press this question home to Nature, each in his own way, and for specific purposes; all are seeking after truth; all recognize its great importance. But that, while there is thus a widespread recognition of the value of the truth, and a general desire to obtain it, there are also some who do not seem to care for it, is not to be denied. There are men enough, and by far too many, who would accept a falsehood sooner than the truth, if by so doing they saw a chance to enrich themselves, or in any way to advance their own selfish interests. There are quacks unnumbered in almost every pursuit of life; quacks in spirit, if not in practice. Such men are enemies to truth, and deserve the severest condemnations of the world, as they have already the condemnation of the Holy Ghost. But fortunately, their denial of the truth does not affect its character or its importance. The truth alone can make men free and happy as they ought to be. It is the one great need of an ignorant and distracted world. How to get at it, then, is a vital question, and it is this question that I propose to discuss with you for a little while; the discussion, however, to be all upon my side, as it usually is with ministers and newspapers. But before I tell you how to get at it, let me say a few words about how *not* to get at it, for there are not a few existing institutions in the land, whose aim, like that of the famous circumlocution office across the way, seems to be to instruct men in this very simple matter by an elaborately useless system of rules and studies that rather hinder than help the progress of humanity; and there are not a few men, apart from these institu-

tions, whose methods lead away from the truth as often, at least, as they lead in its direction. Let me mention some of these methods.

The surest way to avoid the truth is to proceed upon the method of mere assumption without a shadow of proof. This is the way in which some people do it. It rarely fails. It is as if a man being set down in an open plain or pathless forest, and being desirous of finding the north pole, should neglect the indications of the sun and stars, and should consult no compass for his course, but should make up his mind, regardless of all reasoning, that the north pole lay in a certain direction, and then should set his face in that direction, and proceed straight on in hopes of finding it. If we give him one chance to a geographical degree, there would be a probability amounting to 1 in 180 of his finding it. Really, I suppose there would be no likelihood of it at all. He would travel in a circle all his days, and never see the object of his search. Such a man would be no more foolish in his method than certain living men who pursue a precisely similar method in respect to speculative truths. There are dogmatists in matters pertaining to religion, medicine, and almost all the sciences, men who assume to know out of their own inner consciousness just where the truth lies, and who proceed on that assumption as if it were itself the truth. They can give no valid reason for the hope that is in them. Their arguments all travel in a circle, and they very seldom hit the mark. There are theologians who disregard the voice of Nature, and the testimony of the good and wise to whom God has revealed himself in every age, and who put their own interpretation on some Bible text and follow it through thick and thin to themselves again. They are not apt to give much truth to the world. There are scientists, who in their line of thought pursue the same false policy; men like those who declared that the earth was flat and rested on a turtle's back. And I take it for granted that there is occasionally a physician who assumes to know the nature of every disease that flesh is heir to, and who proceeds to doctor his confiding patients with medicines that may or may not be the right sort, as the case may be, but which probably are not. I think I have heard that there is once in a while a dogmatic doctor of this kind walking up and down on the earth, seeking whom he may enforce his notions and his nostrums on; but perhaps I had better not be positive. I only say that if there are any such doctors, I would advise you to give them a wide berth. There is no infallible man upon the earth, unless it be the Pope, and I shouldn't like to trust myself to his infallibility unaided by the good advice of some more fallible, perhaps, but more experienced practitioner. Infallibility is a

rare gift, and it is far safer to trust to the teachings of experience than to any such very doubtful faculty in others or ourselves. Men who form theories as the old woman's hopeful son is said to have made a fiddle—out of his own head—without taking any lessons from experience or any other qualified teacher, and then proceed to act upon them as though they were indisputable facts, are more apt to introduce the discord of dissension than the harmony of truth into the world. Theories, of course, are necessary; there could be no progress without them; but they should be based upon some show of reason, and should be held simply *as* theories, until experience has proved them either true or false, A reasonable theory reasonably held, is one thing; a dogmatic assumption unreasonably urged, is quite another.

Another way of not getting at the truth is to take tradition for a guide. Tradition is no more infallible than the opinions of men at the present day, for tradition is made up of the opinions of men like ourselves, who lived in days gone by; and they were as liable to make mistakes as we, to say the least. Tradition has its uses; it is a good servant up to a certain point; it is one of the things which every careful seeker after truth will take into consideration, and to whose indications he will accord due weight in making his decisions. He is a rash and foolish man who utterly discards tradition, for if the men of former times were not infallible, neither were they fools. Their honest opinions transmitted down to us by letters, or by word of mouth, should be received respectfully, and treated candidly. But what I speak of as an obstacle to the pursuit of truth is not a spirit of respectfulness toward these traditions, and of thankfulness for whatsoever of truth they may prove to contain, but a servile spirit of utter self-abnegation in their presence, a spirit that regards tradition as its master, instead of using it merely as a helpful servant. There are some people who seem almost to worship tradition, so implicitly do they put their trust in it and obey its teachings; people, too, ofttimes, who have little enough regard for what the good and wise men of the present generation are thinking and declaring as the result of their laborious studies and investigations. Why such people should place so much higher an estimate upon the opinions of ancient than of modern times, of dead men than of living men, it might be hard for them to tell. But so it is. You may find such worshipers of the past in almost any field of human labor from the work-bench to the pulpit. We have them in our ranks, men who think that the days of inspiration have gone by, that God does not reveal himself any more to men, that all the wisdom in regard to

sacred things was given to men of olden time, and that we have nothing to do but to accept a religion ready made from them, simply on their authority. No doubt you have in your ranks men who bow down to Galen or to some other doctor of long ago, and take their theories of disease, and their methods of treating it directly and unquestioningly from his hand. There are lawyers who can see no justice except in the decrees of some old Solon, who, although perhaps he did the best that could be done for his own century, yet was not capable of framing laws for the new conditions of the present century, even if he had known of them, which he did not. There are people who can see no learning except in the manuscripts of some old writer of the middle ages. There are men in every walk of life who think it the part of wisdom to believe and do as their ancestors did. They do not care to look into the grounds of their ancestors' beliefs, to see whether they were valid or not, and applicable to the present time. They prefer to take them just as they find them, it is so much easier and so much more satisfactory to them. "Open your mouth, and shut your eyes, and I'll give you something to make you wise," says the old nursery rhyme. It sets forth just the principle that this class of people go upon. Tradition is their nurse, and they swallow all she gives them with open mouths and close shut eyes. I wouldn't give much for the wisdom obtained in that way. I shouldn't like, as a steady thing, to take the prescriptions of a doctor whose degree had been obtained in that blind way. I think I should ask to be excused. Tradition, when trusted to such an extent as this, often proves bnt a blind guide; and if the blind lead the blind both shall fall into the ditch, while truth sits enthroned on the mountain-top.

Still a third way of not getting at the truth is to trust to luck for finding it; to have no general and definite plan in regard to it, but to guess at it in each particular case that may arise, and to risk the chances of missing it. As I am a full-blooded Yankee, perhaps I ought to have more faith in guesswork than such a statement would indicate; for the Yankees are proverbially a guessing people, and *I guess* they are as good at it as any people; but notwithstanding my Yankee blood, I understand very well that guessing is at best but a precarious plan for getting at the truth, and that he is a foolish man who trusts any important matter to its decision. It will do to amuse one's self with upon questions which involve no serious results; but when it comes to questions of a more important character, guessing should be frowned upon. Even tradition is a safer guide in such a case. And yet there are not wanting those who

scarcely know any other guide in life than this. Where it commonly leads them to I need not say. Certainly not to the fullest measure of truth, or into the largest measure of usefulness. Do you suppose there was ever a doctor of medicine who took this weak and stumbling creature for his guide? who, as he stood by the bedside of some suffering man whose disease he did not understand, decided on the whole to give him calomel, or ipecac, because he guessed that would hit the case as well as anything he knew? Do you suppose there was ever a doctor who made a practice of prescribing by guess to his patient's needs? It wouldn't be very surprising if there had been such, for there are people who will trust the dearest interest they have to guesswork; and why shouldn't they trust the interests of others to the same chance? It is told of a company of Ohio volunteers, that early in our recent war, they found themselves encamped one day upon the heights of Maryland. It was dinner-time, and they cast about for some stones to serve as a foundation for their firewood. Finding none, one of the company suggested that they take some bombshells lying near. He guessed they'd do. No sooner said than done. The guess was acted upon at once; the fire was built; and the company soon gathered around the cheering blaze, attracted by the fragrant smell distilling from the kettle there. I need not tell the rest of the story. They guessed it was all right, and it proved all wrong, and cost some of them their lives. That is about as near to the truth as guesswork usually comes. It is a dangerous principle to go upon.

Again, the truth may be avoided in large part by confining one's belief and practice within the limits of some partial system that only represents one phase of truth. The different sects in religion, the different schools of medicine, or some of them, at any rate, are justly chargeable, I fear, with doing much to hide the truth while yet they do much to reveal it. With one hand they uncover, and with the other hand they cover up. They refuse to see or to admit the existence of any truth excepting that which they are especially commissioned to announce. It is a pity that men cannot more frequently be brought to see that truth is many-sided, that no one sect has ever yet taken it all in at a glance, or embodied it all in its practice. Then they would have more charity one for the other, and would be willing to learn one from the other.

Truth cannot be bought. Diplomas can, it seems, but truth cannot. Don't try to get it in that way. I warn you that you will waste your money if you do.

How then? How can we get at truth? Well, I think I will

answer in the words of one who knew whereof he spake when he laid down this rule: "Prove all things: hold fast that which is good." That was St. Paul's way of getting at it, and I don't know of any better way, or in fact of any other way at all that offers any certainty. *Prove all things:* hold fast that which is good. That is eclecticism, isn't it? If not, I do not know the meaning of the word. In order to get at the whole truth, we must in the first place recognize the fact that truth has many forms, that although one in essence, yet it distributes itself among the various phenomena of nature, and the various experiences of mankind, in such a way as to present one aspect here and another there. Then in order to get at this truth, we must prove each thing or theory that claims to have any of it, and when we find any of it, though it be but a single grain, as it were, cling to it as we would to life. Prove these things by the test of experience. That is the only scientific method. In western countries, when the hunter or the farmer wants to find some honey, he goes out into the open ground where the flowers grow, armed with some tufts of cotton wool. As soon as he sees a honey bee, he catches it, if he can, and if it is well laden with honey, he fastens a bit of the wool to it and lets it go, watching carefully the course it takes and marking it. The wool can be seen a long distance. Then he goes to another part of the ground, and catches another bee and treats it in the same way, and so on till he has caught as many as he wants. Then by observing where the lines that the different bees have made would meet if sufficiently prolonged, he determines where the hive must be, probably in some clump of trees not far away; or if the lines do not converge rapidly enough for this, he has only to set some one to follow one line while he follows another, and some one else another, and finally they are sure to meet in the neighborhood of the hive. So in our search for truth, which is sweeter far than honey and the honeycomb, we must take into consideration all the facts that by any chance may have some light to throw upon it, we must search the whole field over, mark every laborer in that vineyard well, see what course he takes and with what results, and then by a little effort of combination, we shall eventually come to that great storehouse of truth to which all of these partial truths belong. That, as I understand it, is substantially what the true eclectic proposes to do. He proposes to watch all workers, to prove all systems, and out of them all to eliminate a fuller truth than any of them singly has. He does not deny the possession of some truth to any person or system that claims to have it, nor does he pretend to have all truth himself. Such denial and assumption would be contrary to the very

spirit of his life. He would defeat himself by such a course. He cannot be a bigot and survive. But he welcomes every man and every system that offers any show of truth, and makes that truth at once his own. Nor does he reject a truth because the messenger is a distasteful or uncanny one. No matter who he is—if he's got any truth, we say, let's have it. I was amused the other day, in reading an account of a Spiritualist convention held at Troy, to note the statement of one zealous brother who declared, in opposition to some members who objected to the recognition of a Mormon element among them, that he didn't care what they were if they were only good spiritualists, or in words to that effect. If they had any light to offer, he thanked God for it; and, as for himself, he would accept a communication from the infernal regions, if it should be sent. I should hardly endorse the brother's sentiments in full, nor the language in which he expressed them, and yet there was that in his intentions which some less crazy people would do well to imitate. Truth is truth, no matter where it comes from, or by whom, and our business is to gather the truth, and reject the bearer if his company be not desirable. The sailor becalmed on a southern sea does not refuse to spread his sails to the springing breeze because it does not come from just the quarter where he would like to have it. I have heard of one drowning man who refused to be saved by a "hurrah for Jackson" man, but I felt no particular pity for him; such men deserve to drown, If we are going to obtain that truth by which alone the world can be saved from its physical and moral ailments, we must not be too particular in matters such as these. We must not let personal prejudices, or party feelings, or anything of that sort, keep us from recognizing truth wherever it exists. The Eclectic must be wholly impartial in his studies, or as nearly so as possible; he must be humble, patient, ready to learn, not hampered by any false traditions, or cumbrous system that would be to him like the armor of Saul to the youthful David, but free in his mind to receive whatever form of truth is most available, and free in his practice to use such truth. He must make up his mind to see his theories oftttimes proved false when put to the test of experience; he must nerve himself to be a frequent witness of what Huxley calls the great tragedy of science—the slaying of a beautiful hypothesis by an ugly fact,—and he must be prepared to renounce such theories completely, no matter how dear they may have been to him, when once they are seen to be untenable. He must prove all things and hold fast *only* that which is good. But perhaps I mistake the true meaning of the word Eclectic. I know what it means when applied to other things,

but when applied to medical affairs, it seems to have a different meaning, if I may believe what a certain writer, himself a physician, says of it. Renouard, in his History of Medicine, says: "Eclecticism is, in reality, neither a system nor a theory; it is, uniquely, an individual pretension elevated to a dogma." "The Eclectic" he says, "carefully avoids the discussion of principles;" and again, "The habitual state of an Eclectic is that of doubt and incertitude; it escapes refutation because it is entirely deficient in principles." Well, if that be eclecticism in medical phraseology, and if that be the character of a medical Eclectic, I don't want to have anything more to do with either one, for I have just been denouncing the very things—"individual pretension elevated to a dogma," avoidance of discussion and lack of steady principle, — which he here declares to form the very genius of Eclecticism. But I am rather inclined to think that M. Renouard has somehow made a mistake. That which he calls eclecticism is not eclecticism. Either the word means one thing in America and another thing in France, or else, which is more likely, the gentleman's prejudices have misled him a little. The true Eclectic courts discussion; he is modest in asserting his individual pretensions; and no man has more definite principles than he, or is freer from real incertitude. He maintains a healthful state of doubt, to be sure, upon points not yet decided, but beyond that he knows his way as thoroughly and treads it as confidently as any man. Indeed, M. Renouard naively admits that the "Eclectic may be, and often is, a good practitioner;" so that the proverb, "good practitioner, bad theorist" may with propriety be applied to him; a strange proverb by the way, and hardly in accordance with the Bible way of putting it, where it says that by their fruits ye shall know them; good fruit does not come from an evil tree, nor good practice from an evil theory; but supposing it was true, as he means to say undoubtedly, that the Eclectic's practice is good in spite of his theory, what then? Which is to be preferred, good practice and poor theory, or good theory and poor practice? What is the object of theories but to produce practice? Give me the good practitioner, and I won't ask him about his theory. It seems to me after all that M. Renouard has paid a very high compliment to Eclecticism in spite of his detractions. On another page, he confesses himself a true eclectic to my way of thinking. In speaking of the various medical doctrines of the world, he says: "I have studied and compared them with all the attention of which I am capable; for I wished to form an opinion based on the absolute or relative value, on the advantages or injurious influence, of each one of them." What is that but the bee pro-

cess over again? I call it eclecticism, whatever he may call it. In another place he tries to get around the difficulty by saying that most of the so-called Eclectics of the present day are "Empirics in disguise." Why in disguise? I should like to know—Empirics *openly* before the world, for empiricism is the foundation of Eclecticism as it is of all true science. First prove all things, then choose what is good. The fact is that Eclecticism in a greater or less degree is found in all the schools, else they would not progress at all. The Eclectic school, distinctively so-called, does but raise into a leading principle the unconfessed element of progress in each one of them. That is why I honor it, and am especially interested in it. If it did no more than give assertion to this everlasting principle it would not have lived in vain.

And now a word or two about physicians in general. They have a holy work to do. The true physician has as sacred a mission here as has the clergyman. Both are ministers; both are engaged in saving men, the one through physical agencies especially, and the other through moral agencies; but body and soul are so closely united here that the two fields of labor overlap, and the clergyman is often doing the doctor's work, unconsciously perhaps, and the doctor is doing the clergyman's work. Our paths in life lie close together. There is a lesson for us in the fact that in the early ages the priest and physician were one and the same, and that Christ himself was no less the physician of bodies than of souls. Let us, then, work shoulder to shoulder against the evils of the world, and while all other studies are advancing rapidly, let us not fall behind. Surely there is work enough to occupy us. The sins of society are twofold in their evil character. The crime of a Rosenzweig are felt through the community, both in physical disease and moral corruption. And when we consider the fact that $\frac{1}{8}$ of all the fœtal human life in America is intentionally destroyed, as I have seen it stated upon medical authority, that fact alone with all that it involves in the way of physical and spiritual disease, is enough to startle us, and to incite us to fresh efforts in our common cause. We must be bold and firm, seeking the truth, and speaking the truth, and standing by it at all hazards. We must aim to prevent as well as to cure. It is a blessed feature of both the physician's and the clergyman's profession that it aims to abolish itself, by abolishing the need of it. We labor for the welfare of mankind. Let this great thought inspire us to closer study and to nobler efforts in the future than we have yet displayed, and proportionately great shall be our reward. God bless the medical fraternity.

REPORT ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

BY JOHN STOWE, M. D.
Of Massachusetts.

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL CONVENTION:—The theory and practice of Medical Eclecticism, with the principles it inculcates, are rapidly spreading through the world. Its influence is felt upon all classes of society, gradually, but surely revealing the abominations of the old, radical conservatism and the excellences of progression. Liberal medical education has wrought such a change in the medical world that every Allopathic School has been obliged to loose from the moorings of their former theories and teachings, and either suffer their influence to wane and die, or join in the grand army of patient, practical investigation which they have so strenuously opposed.

In the meantime, through the energy and perseverance of Eclectic practitioners and teachers, schools and colleges have sprung into existence, where considerable of the theory and practice of medicine is being taught with *nearly* as scientific certainty as either of the other branches of a medical education: so that it may no longer in truth be said, that the *whole* practice of medicine is but one grand experiment, but that we may now base many of our prescriptions upon certain scientific principles as our guide, and not be disappointed in the result. And now,—having obtained the key,—may we not continue our investigations until the *whole* practice shall be established upon as reliable and scientific a basis?

In most diseased conditions, there is immediately a lesion or derangement of the circulation. That "to equalize the circulation," "to control the heart's action," is the fundamental principle, always he first object to be had in view, is, I think, fully impressed upon the mind of every Eclectic. This accomplished, the system is in condition to receive and respond to the action of such medicines as a careful diagnosis indicates as remedies.

As Eclectics, it is our second point in view, always to sustain the

energies of the system under all circumstances, from the attack to the culmination of disease, that the system may maintain its integrity during the diseased condition, and have a rapid and happy convalescence. In fact, in many,—perhaps in a majority of cases where we are called to prescribe,—we find this all that is necessary to do, and, by holding it a short time under control, the lesion is repaired, the disease passes away, and a healthy condition is re-established.

Eclectics never deplete their patients, but in all febrile and inflammatory conditions seek to "equalize the circulation" and restore the system to its normal standard of circulation and temperature, without reducing its vitality or wasting its energies. For this purpose they rely upon such articles as can be continued in their action upon the system in safety, if necessary, for any considerable length of time. They are sanative in medicinal doses, reliable in their effect, and leave the system in full play when discontinued, and, while under its influence, control the heart's action, retard the circulation, reduce the temperature, relieve congested parts or organs of the pressure of blood upon them, when they are so swollen and inflamed as to forbid the passage of blood through them. They bring the whole system into the most favorable condition for its own recuperation, or to respond to the action of remedies for specific purposes. This is usually accomplished in from twelve to forty-eight hours,—depending principally upon the rapid or gradual development of disease after incubation, those most insidious in their approach and grave in character, and having the most serious lesion, requiring the greatest length of time to control. But by a careful diagnosis the specific articles for use are indicated with quite a positive degree of certainty.

For example: If the tongue is heavily coated at the base, a disagreeable taste in the mouth, and an unpleasant degree of fullness and oppression over the epigastrium, we know the stomach must first be relieved, before medicine or nutriment can be absorbed or assimulated. An emetic is here indicated, and whatever is the condition or character of the pulse, I know of no article for this purpose so prompt, efficient, and universally admissible as Lobelia, either alone or in combination, it being the principal remedial agent. The bowels should now receive attention, and, if loaded, should be relieved by enema, and, if necessary, gentle action may be induced by mild but persistent effort. This accomplished, we have the chylopoetic viscera in condition to absorb remedies, and the system to respond to their influence, and we continue our treatment with veratrum, lobelia, aconite, gelseminum, nux vomica, etc., to control the heart's action,

and can follow with, or use alternate medicines for the specific diseased condition developed. If now the tongue is broad and heavily coated, white or yellow, and the mouth slimy and sticky and pasty, we infer there is excess of acid, and use alkaline remedies, either saline or sulphite, as the special marked condition of the mucus membranes indicate.

But if the tongue be red and pointed, with retching and vomiting, and tenderness on pressure over the epigastrium, we understand there is irritation and inflammation of the stomach, and of the bowels, if the abdomen is tender and painful, and that the sympathetic nervous system is involved; here no emetic for cleansing the stomach is indicated, but remedies in broken doses (small doses often repeated) to relieve and allay this condition. For this purpose aconite, lobelia, rhubarb, peach-tree bark or ipecac., are admissible. The bowels should also receive special attention, and an enema may or may not be demanded or admissible; but no attempt to induce action of the bowels by medicines should be made, as it would only increase the inflammation and pain, and make the case more complicated and grave in its character.

But in addition to medicines prescribed internally, external application of cold packs, or hot fomentations, rubefacients, or soothing remedies, are of great value. Special care should also be taken to keep the feet warm, to assist free circulation. If now the tongue be dark red and glossy, with sordes accumulating on the teeth, we understand readily that there is an alkaline condition of the fluids, and acids are demanded, and their exhibition will not fail our expectation.

To select from the various articles named for the several conditions above described, and have our expectations fully realized, we must have a full and clear diagnosis of every case, not only of membranes, but of the frequency and character of the pulse, and the condition of the nervous system. If the pulse be frequent and strong, we give veratrum; but if frequent and feeble, aconite; if restless, with the nervous system excited and the pulse quick and strong, gelseminum; but if dullness of the nervous system, with tendency to coma, belladonna. For a bounding pulse, lobelia; especially if the skin is dry and hot.

This paper might be very materially enlarged if necessary, but it is already sufficiently comprehensive to establish the fact, that the theory and practice of medicine, as now understood, published, taught and practised by Eclectic Physicians, is materially in advance of other schools of practice, in the scientific certainty with which we

prescribe many of our remedies, and the positive confidence we feel in results to be obtained.

If the positions taken in this paper be correct, as we believe them to be, have we not reached, to the extent here indicated, a system of Rational Medicine?

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SURGERY.

BY ROBERT S. NEWTON, M. D.
Chairman.

In pursuance of appointment at the last Annual Meeting of the Association, your Committee beg leave to report:

Practical Medicine has made greater improvement and progress within the last fifty years than in any other similar period. This may be attributed to several concurrent. causes contributing to this end, among which we may mention the following: The wonderful discoveries which have made Chemistry a science, by the aid of which we are now able to comprehend more clearly the processes of nutrition, respiration, calorification, secretion and excretion; the increased attention paid to Microscopy, by which the mode of development of the germ, the organization and growth of the different tissues, the process of repair and that of inflammation, and other morbid processes, have been investigated — the rapid progress made in experimental Physiology, aided by Chemistry and Microscopy — the increased attention paid to comparative Anatomy, and to the study of morbid Anatomy, not only in relation to the symptoms of disease during life, but to the various degrees of morbid developments, and to the relation they bear to each other — to the new and more perfect methods of investigating disease by which its diagnosis has become more certain — the discoveries by pharmaceutical chemists of the active principles of various drugs, enabling us to reduce the quantity by enhancing the quality, and thus rendering them less nauseous to the stomach, and ourselves less repulsive on that account — by no

means a small achievement. The Materia Medica has been enriched by the discovery of various medicines, by which diseases hitherto beyond control have been brought to yield to the resources and skill of the practitioner, and by anæsthetics, one of the greatest of boons conferred on mortals. Microscopy has been of immense service in enabling us to determine the condition of the blood or fluids, and thus guiding to a positive diagnosis as to whether the solids would allow of extensive excisions or incisions. The surgeon is enabled to determine almost to a certainty what course to pursue in every variety of diseases connected with the blood, especially those of Gangrene and Scrofula.

The advancement of science has greatly contributed to the improvement of Therapeutics, but more particularly to Surgery. The sphere of Surgery is more limited, and at the same time more accurately defined than Medicine. Skillful surgeons of the present century have directed their attention more to the simplification of the processes of surgical operations, than to the invention of any new and daring operations, though the profession has not been without heroic operators — and also to the perfection of the instrumentalities used, and the introduction of anæsthetics. The following may be included among the more important improvements of the age, viz: the resection of the bones at the joints, the preservation of the periosteum and consequent development of new bone, partial amputations of the foot, amputations at the thigh and shoulder joint, the ligature of arteries within the trunk, and immediately at their departure from it, the resection and removal of portions or even the whole of the upper and lower jaw, the operations for cleft or deficient *velum palati*, or palatine vault; the opening by longitudinal section of the air passages at different points to avoid asphyxia; the resection and extirpation of the uterus, of the ovaries, and of the lower portion of the rectum; the adoption of water dressings in the treatment of wounds; the introduction of the silver suture; the adoption of the gum and *papier mache* splints in fractures; the processes for remedying disunited fracture; the substitution of milder means for the trephine in all cases except the most serious; the cure of the most formidable aneurisms by the ligature of the carotid, subclavian, axillary, humeral, and internal and external iliac arteries; the treatment of varicose veins; the successful reduction of hernia, and the removal of calculus, both by lithotomy and lithotrity, in consequence of the great improvement in the processes and instruments employed; the treatment of stricture, of injuries and diseases of the trachea and larynx, and of rectal dis-

eases; the diagnosis and treatment of tumors, whether encysted, fatty, vascular, or malignant; the treatment of hydrocele; the cure of strabismus; the restorative processes by which the nose, lip, etc., are reformed from adjacent tissues, and the treatment of hare-lip and club-foot. All these are patent to the profession, and the progress already made is full of promise for the future. In this progress Eclecticism occupies a prominent position among the Schools, and if not in advance, at least not second to any. In this connection we will call your attention to a few subjects, and their mode of treatment by us, which will illustrate our position.

Anemia, which for so many years has been the terror of the operator, in consequence of the great fatality resulting from important operations, by which suppuration as an excretion was not properly established, and that fluid connected with lesion of tissue in place of being thrown off from the body, being re-absorbed, poisoning the entire blood, or the production of local gangrene, and its effect upon the circulation, either or both of which operating on the brain or nerve centers resulting in nervous prostration, and almost certain death.

The new treatment introduced in 1845, and incorporated in the published literature of Eclectic Medicine in 1847 by one of your committee, has been such as to obviate almost entirely the foregoing difficulties. The treatment alluded to, is the use of the sulphate of zinc in solution to be applied to all lesions of tissue connected with amputations, and deep incisions into muscular tissues, made for the purpose of puncturing abscesses, removing tumors, or the excision of parts or portions of diseased bony tissue. The necessity for such operations occurring so frequently in connection with the above condition of the animal fluids, renders the above treatment obvious.

We would here remark, that in the great number of cases treated from the time mentioned until the present, neither mortification nor anemia have attended a single instance, nor have we lost a single case by death where the remedy above indicated was properly and timely applied. One of the great obstacles to be surmounted in the introduction of this principle in Surgery, is the opinion so tenaciously adhered to and adopted by surgeons generally for the last fifty years, that in all cases, as a rule, when either excision or incision is made, as referred to above, the great promise of success is in healing by first intention, and as a matter of course, if this be correct, it would not be good surgery to use any local application to retard this action. As thoroughly established as this dogma of the profession may be, we placed ourselves in opposition to its teaching as far back as 1843,

and we never have had occasion to change our views; but on the other hand their correctness has been practically demonstrated, and we are assured that the largest proportion of surgical operations performed, will result more favorably where suppuration is established, and the reunion of tissues is brought about by granulatory processes. In the amputation of a limb, even when the powers of the system are in a vigorous as well as a feeble condition, the treatment suggested should be adopted in all cases. A saturated solution of the sulphate of zinc is the agent to be depended upon. In amputations, as soon as the arteries are ligated, the entire bleeding surfaces should be covered over with this liquid, applied with a soft sponge. This should be done until the effusion of blood is arrested. The zinc congeals the blood, prevents any immediate disorganization of the tissues, and there is no disease to be taken up by the absorbents. The solution acts as a powerful stimulant, and while it will retard the ordinary suppuration for twenty-four or thirty-six hours, it continues to act during this time as a disinfectant, and prevents any serious consequences resulting from the suppuration which generally ensues on amputation. After the zinc is applied, the limb should be dressed in the usual way, and if any unusual redness or inflammation manifests itself on the surface, or along the course of the absorbents, the parts should be penciled, or pledgets of lint saturated with the zinc solution should be placed over them.

In the removal of tumors connected with the muscular tissue, the whole part should be sponged in the same way. In the removal of diseased bone, the surrounding tissue should be subjected to the same kind of treatment. In all excisions of cancerous diseases, the tissue should be treated in the same manner, and in these cases we are in the habit of repeating the application once in twenty-four hours, continued for five or six days. Never, in any instance in the treatment of this disease, do we preserve any of the integument, or attempt to heal by first intention (suppuration here is obviously everything). In the removal of abdominal tumors by excision we have never adopted the use of the zinc. Many may suppose that the use of the zinc in the cases referred to, and especially in amputation, would prevent the parts from healing. When parts are approximate, as in amputation, that is not the case. In the case of excisions, as above referred to, it is seldom, if ever necessary, to approximate the parts, and hence suppuration in such cases is desirable.

In the treatment of psoas and lumbar abscesses, fistula in ano, and all scrofulous, fistulous diseases, and especially those connected with the bony tissue, the sulphate of zinc may be applied with most satis-

factory results. In the above cases it is of the highest importance to remove the morbid base; for in no instance has a healthy granulated action supervened upon a morbid base. The zinc must be applied, as to form or strength, as the case may require, and continued until the diseased portion is entirely destroyed, which, after a few days, sloughs, and the base then is nothing more nor less than a healthy granulating surface, and which will soon heal entirely, if a proper constitutional treatment is observed.

In the long list we have given of improvements in modern surgical science, as indicating a healthy progress, allusion is made to the reproduction of bone and its preservation, thereby dispensing with the amputating knife, which, we may say, is still recklessly and unnecessarily used. The remark made by a distinguished writer many years since, though it may be regarded as a mere truism, is still, nevertheless, worthy of regard. He said, "The greatest surgeon is he who saves his patients with the fewest surgical operations." Diseases and fractures of the bone have called for a more frequent use of the scalpel than any other; hence to reproduce and heal in this department of surgery will win, not only the title of distinction in his profession, but will find an honored place in the roll of philanthropy. The surgical profession, from the earliest times to the present, have invariably maintained, that in all diseases of the spinal column depending on disorganization of the bony tissue, the further disorganization of the bone may be arrested, the life of the patient prolonged, and in no instance on surgical record, has even the most distinguished of the profession recommended the use of the knife. Hundreds and thousands of spinal diseases have been arrested, and although the bone could not be reproduced and overcome deformity, further development of the disease has been prevented, the patient saved and made to enjoy a life of comparative comfort. Now while the profession admits the correctness of this practice, and the principle is firmly established as a rule, why, we ask, is not this same rule followed in the case of other parts of diseased bony tissue? Why resort to the knife in disease of the Radius or Ulna, in the tibia or femor? If the use of the knife is altogether unnecessary in spinal affection, why should it be necessary in these latter cases?

In disease of the shaft of a bone, a constitutional and local treatment is vastly more valuable than where the joints are involved. One of your Committee has, in several instances, treated persons laboring under disease of the humerus, femor and tibia, with constitutional and local treatment, in the use of tonics and alteratives,

with gentle stimulants; and locally by injections brought in direct contact with the bone, until the newly-formed bone was sufficiently developed to take the place of the original. When suppuration takes place, there is a loosening or detaching of the dead bone from the living, which, as a matter of course, must be removed. This process requires from four to eighteen months, at which time the entire body or shaft of the bone can be removed. In one instance four inches of the body of the humerus were removed, and in another case, six inches of the femor; and in still another, four inches of the tibia. These are mentioned as a few out of many similar cases, and, in my mind, satisfactorily establish the principle of the non-use of the knife.

The patients in the above cases, to all appearance, had as much development and strength of the arm and leg, as they had previous to the disease and removal of the bone. The internal and constitutional treatment in the above cases, was the use of vegetable and mineral tonics, principally hydrastin and the phosphate of iron, to be given in as large and continuous doses as can well be digested by the patient. Some patients cannot take more than from three to five grains, three times a day, while others can take a drachm; but in all instances where it produces unpleasant symptoms, the quantity should be made to conform to the stomach of the patient.

Your Committee are unwilling to bring their report to a conclusion, without alluding to the present high position which American surgery has attained, and the equally high position occupied by American surgeons in the world. It is all that a laudable ambition need desire, and presents the strongest inducements to the young men of the profession to prosecute with untiring energy their studies in this department, that the position thus honorably gained, and the proud trophies won, may not be lost. The results of capital operations, the improvement of the various surgical appliances, the pathological principles, as well as the physiological laws which have been adopted, and which control the actions of American surgeons, are such, in consequence of the triumphant achievements which they have made, as justly to entitle them to the high position they enjoy.

Time will only allow us to touch upon these few points in our report, but we may make additions to the paper, before the publication of the transactions of the Association.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GYNÆCOLOGY.

BY C. EDWIN MILES, M. D.
Chairman.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: In the department of Gynæcology, which has been assigned to this Committee, there has been bestowed a vast amount of labor and research during the ten years just past, and we question if an equal interest has been exhibited in any other direction by the profession of all schools in that period of time. The field that is therefore open before your Committee is very extensive, and it would be in vain for them to attempt even a synopsis of the subject in its fullest extent, and they will pretend to do no more than hint at some points that impress them as being especially important for consideration.

THE SPECIAL INTEREST

awakened in the department of Gynæcology has had its rise in a variety of causes, the more patent of which is the proportionately increased number of cases of disease peculiar to the female organism, and the humane desire to benefit the victims of those maladies. Another and prolific cause for special attention in this direction is the more just appreciation of the relations and sympathies existing between and arising from the pathological condition of the uterine organs, the mammæ and other and oftentimes remote tissues of the female body. Here, as indication after indication has pointed to what might possibly exist, and as further investigation has demonstrated that these indications have pointed in the direction supposed, thought has not only been invited, but compelled hither to seek out the sources of certain hitherto occult phenomena in disease.

That abuses have not been allowed to creep in, and that investigation has been as broad as it might have been, and that it has always been altogether in the right direction, is not to be supposed. There can be no doubt that some in their ardor have come too much to look on every disease of the female not readily accounted for otherwise, as having its origin in the sexual organs, being also ever forget-

ful that these organs are likely to be the sufferers from disease located in other regions of the body, as well as themselves to be the cause of disease in tissues in remote parts from them.

Nor can your Committee believe it altogether improbable that an amount of the interest manifested in gynæcological studies has its origin in the popularity it has assumed at the present time. Not that we would intimate that an undue interest has been, or may be developed in the thorough and conscientious investigation of this subject, but rather that some may come to assume that Gynæcology is the only department, the alpha and omega of the medical curriculum.

The methods of investigation in the department of Gynæcology are numerous, and greatly in advance of those formerly used by the profession. Among the present modes and opportunities for a correct diagnosis, upon which rational therapeutics so much depends, there is invaluable aid rendered from the use of the speculum in its various forms, the womb-sound with all its modifications, and the microscope for the examination of the materials thrown off from the uterine and vaginal cavities. These instruments, so common now, and furnished at prices so reasonable, should be in the hands of every physician making any pretensions to the treatment of female diseases.

Great caution, however, and much good judgment is required in the use of the means just alluded to, and where they are to be avoided is not, by any means, the poorest test of the physician's skill. That instrumental examinations are most injuriously and unwarrantably practiced is too evident to require proof. That there is a passion on the part of many physicians of all schools, and the charlatan, and those of no school, to resort to this practice, we regret to know; and this passion is too much seconded by a kind of *abandon* in many of the sex, that seems to be quite unaccountable and surprising. Whatever else many females suppose they fail to know of this, they think themselves certain, if they perchance are suffering from some difficulty not otherwise readily explainable to themselves, it must have its location in the sexual organs, and hence to demonstrate this nothing less than an examination, *par vaginum*, can reveal the true condition of their malady. To gratify this notion, and to foster this prejudicial error, to some of the profession seems no harm, and thereby in untold numbers the speculum, womb-sound, and manual examination is made, and not unfrequently heroic treatment like the caustic is used to secure an ill-gotten and often repeated fee.

Abuses in this direction, we believe, not unfrequently arise where the motives are not bad, but the prejudice directs wrongly, so prom-

inent has the idea become with many in the profession, that all unexplainable diseases in the female have their origin in the sexual organs, and safety to their patients, they judge, resides in striking at those organs though the blow be in the dark, and the means of the most heroic character. Too much conscientious care and skill cannot be exercised here by the earnest physician, and condemnation too strong will never be visited on the charlatan, or greedy gain-seeker, whatever his attainments, who thus abuses the confidence of his patient, and prostitutes the medical art.

The causes of the diseases peculiar to the female organism are multifarious, growing in power and increasing in number with the multiplication of population, and the customs that fix like excrescences upon civilization, not, indeed, as necessary to true civilization, but only as another manifestation of the fact that hideous error ever clings close to the feet of truth in its progress. The present modes of living, dress, and exercise are prominent departures from nature that do much to induce female diseases; but the great sin of pre-natal infanticide must be regarded as the Samson among the slayers of the health and strength of American women. Here, more than in all other directions, may the medical man, by sound advice and correct practice—*never*, only when demanded by the highest considerations of the medical art, resorting to abortive methods or premature delivery—do the best service for the health of the women of his country.

The remedial measures for treating the diseases of females your committee do not purpose to discuss at length, and yet they would direct attention to the treatment by pessaries, supporters, and the numerous mechanical appliances of the various forms of uterine displacements so common at the present day. These methods your committee believe to be of great service at times, and in certain conditions of disease; but they beg to suggest that they entertain the opinion that too little attention is given in the direction of rest, the supine posture, a proper condition of the digestive organs, and the general health of the patient. Whatever may be the immediate results of mechanical means, it should not be forgotten that no permanent good can result from their use if the general tone of the system still remains impaired.

The attention of the profession should also be more frequently directly to the uterine cavity as the real point of lesion in many of those cases which are regarded as simple inflammation of the mucous follicles of the vagina. For want of proper care, doubtless many physicians are perplexed, and patients suffer from the con-

tinued use of vaginal enemas, while the diseased action is mostly confined to the uterine cavity, which can never be benefited by the vaginal enema.

The therapeutics of this department of medicine demands the closest care and investigation of the medical profession. A grand point of inquiry should be, how little of mechanical and surgical means is necessary in the treatment of female diseases? how much can we do with the use of constitutional and specific medication? One thought, we suggest, is important at this point of inquiry, namely, that the uterus is not the entire female organism, and is not, therefore, the source of all female diseases. A just appreciation of the true state and relation of the sexual organs to the other organs and tissues of the body will aid much in our therapeutics here. If the sexual organs suffer sympathetically, let the proper source of disease be primarily treated; if a generally impaired vitality is manifest, do not hope to restore the patient with the caustic or pessary, or with vaginal or uterine enemas. Suggestions like the above were inopportune, we are aware, were it not evident that the practice of many in the profession is such, as to give the strongest evidence that they ignore these simple and vital principles of correct medical practice.

The surgical diseases of women your committee do not purpose to consider, believing it will be better left to the Committee on Surgery.

THE TREATMENT OF FRACTURES OF THE CLAVICLE AND INFERIOR MAXILLARY.

BY JOHN STOWE, M. D.

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE CONVENTION: — IN the treatment of fractures, we are sometimes exceedingly troubled to keep the fractured extremities of the bones so steadily in apposition that they can unite. This arises from various causes, as comminuted fractures, contused wounds which are painful, or lacerated wounds which require dressing,—intolerance to pressure from shock of the nervous system, and many other causes; and, sometimes, after exhausting all the methods and appliances of which we have any knowledge or can find described, we find our professisnal skill and ingenuity severely taxed for some means whereby we may avoid the objections, fulfill the indications, and conduct the case to a favorable result.

By invitation, and through your indulgence in giving me your attention for a few moments, I propose to speak of certain cases pertaining to the truth of this proposition, and present before you certain improved apparatus applied as in the cases described, and also cuts showing the same application.

February 3d, 1870, a gentleman 45 years of age, of strictly temperate habits, sanguinous temperament, muscular, but not adipose, fell down stairs, injuring his head, shoulder and arm, and causing oblique fracture of the clavicle, with the ends overlapping about two inches. The injury to his head was so great the blood flowed freely from one ear for several days, and it was about four days before he recovered his senses, and was restored to consciousness.

The case received immediate attention. The fracture was readily reduced, the fractured ends adjusted, and dressed with the usual figure of 8 bandage. The shock to the nervous system was very great, and although he was unconscious, it was soon found the dressing was extremely irritating, and after re-dressing several times it was finally of necessity entirely removed the second day, and remained without any dressing several days, until the fever some-

what abated and the hemorrhage was controlled. It was now re-adjusted and dressed, but a few hours produced such constitutional symptoms that it was found necessary to remove them again. Then in succession followed the various popular dressings, such as Levis and Fox's apparatus; Dessault's bandage; clavicle yoke, etc.; for although I could, readily, fully reduce and adjust the fractured bone, I could not by any dressing I knew of, or could devise, confine it so but that it overlapped an inch or more, and any pad or bandage in the axilla, or pressure upon the elbow, produced almost immediate paralysis and swelling, and so much pain, nervous irritation and derangement of the brain, that none of the various dressings I applied could be tolerated many hours at a time.

Having exhausted both my patience and resources, I invited Prof. Walter Burnham of Lowell in council. The first dressing applied by him was removed in a few hours, not answering the purpose at all. He had, however, suggested another, which I immediately applied, and with which I brought the bone within less than half an inch of apposition, and kept it there until a perfect union was formed in that position.

It consisted of a thin board, about four inches wide, and of sufficient length to extend a little beyond each shoulder. This, covered, and wadded with cotton, lies flat upon the back, upon — and holding firmly in position — the scapulæ. With a bandage about six inches wide, I made two flat collars of that width, of sufficient length to pass from the axilla over the shoulder, and around the end of the board. These were well wadded with cotton battings. The width of the collars enabled one edge of each to be carried well over the point of the shoulder, where, by a little care and manipulation, they were easily secured and retained: and then coming flat over the end of the board, the shoulders were securely held back, while the width of the board prevented any considerable pressure in the axilla; and no support being required at the elbow, — the board upon the scapulæ, acting as a lever to throw back the shoulders whenever the weight of the arm was upon it.

This dressing — so far as I know — is original with Professor Burnham. The accompanying engraving of the dressing, applied as described, and also the full dressing as used, which I here present, will show you that, while it looks awkward and ungainly, it is simple, and must be efficient; and if it sometimes serves any of you in a troublesome case, I shall be amply repaid for making this report. [See Fig. No. 1., next page.]

March 19th, 1870, a gentleman 28 years of age, of strictly temperate habits, of good health and constitution, fell through a scuttle doorway in his store, striking upon a stove, producing a compound fracture of the inferior maxillary bone, with considerable laceration in the mouth, and in the immediate vicinity of the fracture on the outside, and a contused wound on the head.

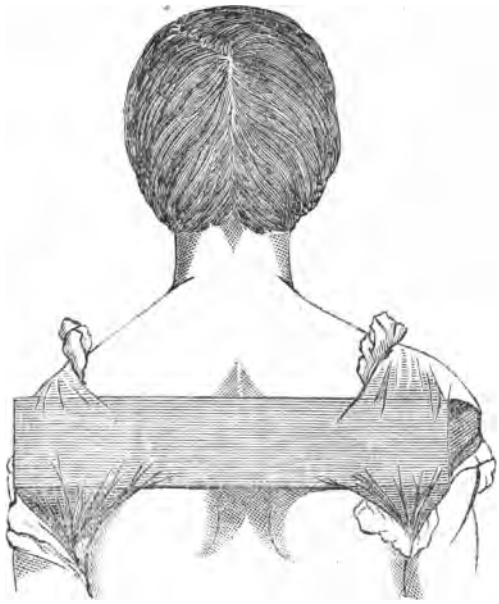

Fig. No. 1.

The dissevered parts were immediately adjusted, and a simple dressing applied, after which a gutta-percha splint was fitted and applied, being held in place by a bandage in the usual manner. From the shock to the system, and the injury to the head, serious constitutional disturbance immediately followed, with fever, and an erysipelatous condition of the wounds, which the bandage covered and made it impossible to dress. It was necessary, therefore, to remove the dressings often, which is a serious objection; and when applied in any manner I could find described, or could devise *by bandages*, I failed to meet the indications.

The obstacles in the way of recovery with these dressings, were so great, that I found it necessary, if possible, to devise an apparatus or dressing better suited to such cases than any yet published, *without bandages*, and which would enable me to keep the fractured bone in

position without disturbing it, while I dressed the wounds upon the cheek and head, and, if possible, make it more comfortable and bearable for my patient.

This I succeeded in doing. My apparatus fulfilled every indication demanded. I had no further trouble with the patient, and a perfect union was the result.

The materials used were perforated tin; firm, inelastic webbing, half an inch wide; and patent clamp buckles; but any flat, wide buckle will answer.

First, a splint or cup, of perforated tin was made to fit the chin, the ends extending back fully under the angle of the jaw; and the sides to cover the ramus to steady it in that region. This splint was bound with fine wire soldered on, so as to make it smooth and keep it firm; upon both ends and upon the upper edge of each side of the splint, are loops of wire of suitable size to receive the webbings, to which are attached the buckles. [See Fig. No. 2.]

Fig. No. 2.

Of another piece of perforated tin was made an oblong flaring band or crown to surround the top of the head, also bound with wire soldered on. This band of perforated tin forming the crown, is an inch and a quarter wide. The oblong opening in the crown is six inches long by four and a half broad. On each side of the band, over the temples, are two wire loops, corresponding with those on the maxillary splint, to which are attached the webbings, which are about six inches long, that being of sufficient length to reach the buckles on either side of the splint. To the back end of the crown is attached another buckle. [See Fig. No. 3, on next page.]

Two pieces of webbing are now so joined together as to make it *three tailed*, or like the letter "Y" reversed "⅄." One end is put in the buckle on the back end of the crown; the other ends falling, one on either side, behind the ears, to the buckles attached to the end of the splint. The crown is now lined with cloth, or padded, and

Fig. No. 3.

placed in position; the splint well and carefully packed with pieces of cloth and adjusted, and the straps secured in the buckles.

By loosening one of these straps at a time, I could dress the wounds on the sides of the head and cheek without disturbing the jaw. Any point could be tightened or loosened as the swelling increased or diminished. Any uncomfortable bearing of the crown could be relieved by a slight change of position, by lengthening or shortening the straps on either side or behind, without disturbing the equal bearing of the splint, and the serious difficulty of heat often encountered with bandages, was obviated by the small surface of equally distributed pressure, and the perforated tin, which gives ventilation. The firm splint also keeps off the straps from bearing upon the cheeks, and pressing them firmly against the teeth, to the great relief and comfort of the patient, and affording a ready means of administering liquid nourishment if the teeth are sound and perfect, without resorting to the objectionable practice of extracting a tooth.

The accompanying engravings of the apparatus applied upon the head, as described, and the apparatus here applied, as it was removed from the patient, will give you a much better idea of it than any oral or written description can do.

So far as I know or believe, there has never been any device or arrangement at all corresponding to this, used for holding in position fractured portions of the *inferior maxillary bone.*

Believing the invention an important improvement which is to benefit both the suffering patient and the surgeon, and not desiring by any means to control its use, but as a true physician, wishing it to be of the greatest possible benefit to all mankind, I tender to all the benefits and comforts to be derived from its use in this serious and often troublesome fracture; but, being desirous of establishing the evidence of its invention, and introduction to the profession, to the credit of the Eclectic School, and for that purpose only, I obtained letters-patent, dated August 2, 1870.

VERBAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PHARMACOPŒIA.

BY H. D. GARRISON, M. D.
of Illinois.

I BELIEVE I am the only member present of this Committee. I am sorry that such is the case, for I have no written report to make. But I would explain the state of affairs a little, so that the Convention may not think that they are different from what they really are.

Prof. King, of Cincinnati, Ohio, I believe, is chairman of the Committee; and you are perhaps aware of the reason that deters him from entering heartily into this work of getting up a pharmacopœia, and that is his interest in the American Dispensatory. A pharmacopœia would simply be processes taken out of that Dispensatory, and embodied in a book, without any alterations, and without any additions, or else it would require a new dispensatory, as is the case among our brethren, the homœopathists. They have their National Pharmacopœia, which consists merely of little texts, as it were; the dispensatory follows soon after that, every ten years, giving a little sermon on those texts.

Now, if we take the processes out of King's Dispensatory, and embody them in a little book, without any change, we have not gained much. If we take the best, and leave the worst, and modify others, and add

new, we must have a new dispensatory, or we must incorporate a dispensatory with the processes, and that would make the present American Dispensatory almost a useless book.

I think that this is the chief reason why Dr. King has not taken any part in this matter, except to occupy the position to keep others out. He has not corresponded with me, nor have I had any correspondence with any of these gentlemen on the subject. I did not expect, when I saw his name, that much would be done, unless he changed his ideas. I think if the present edition of the American Dispensatory were exhausted, or required revision, that Dr. King would then be willing and anxious to take part in framing a pharmacopœia, and then write a dispensatory afterwards; or might take the whole matter in his hands, and get up a good one. He is amply able to do it. But the matter of bread and butter is a very important item in this life, and I suppose Dr. King is not exempt from its influence.

Our old friend, Dr. William S. Merrill, is a good old man too, but there is the same reason to prevent him from taking any part in the matter. He is the father of a certain kind of compound syrup of stillingia, which he thinks is pretty good, and he don't want to tell everybody what it is, and don't want to get up a pharmacopœia without telling; so he prefers not to say anything about it. The old man is pretty honest about these things. He does not want to say the truth, and does not want to tell a lie, so he prefers to keep still.

So far as I am individually concerned, I have been anxious for the pharmacopœia ever since I commenced to manufacture medicines. There exists now the greatest confusion. Among alkaloids, as some one says, the confusion is confoundedly confused. If you prescribe a tincture, and you look up the authorities, you may find perhaps twenty-five different strengths; if a syrup, you will find as many as twenty-five for that. If you prescribe a compound, there are a great many in use.

Now, a very voluminous writer down at Cincinnati has been muddling affairs a great deal of late, as a great many have done before, by introducing and speaking flippantly of a new class of tinctures not recognized — eight ounces to the pound, etc., and a great many are now prescribing those — prescribing so much tincture of this, that, and the other. They expect it to be eight ounces to the pound, and perhaps do not know that the United States Dispensatory has it of another strength, and the American Dispensatory of still another.

So confusion prevails; when we receive an order for medicine, we hardly know what to say in a great many instances, and can only

judge from where the man lives sometimes, what school he attended, who was his preceptor, and the circumstances surrounding him — what he really wants — and we are often deceived in that.

Our literature is, therefore, to a certain extent useless, because the remedies recommended, the compounds spoken of, are not familiar to everybody, nor have they the means of finding out. A pharmacopœia would reduce this matter to a state of clearness that all would comprehend. It would bear very hard upon some folks, who have certain hobbies or remedies that they are running upon; it would perhaps not flatter a great many people, by revealing the true nature of the compounds that they are selling for what they really are not. But the legitimate manufacturer and dealer in medicines, as well as the regular practitioner, would be very much benefited by it, and the state of the profession very much elevated.

Without a pharmacopœia, which is the very gospel of our creed, we can hardly get along. And it seems that Eclecticism as a national institution can hardly hold together, without a pharmacopœia is framed for it. The homœopaths have some authority to go by. They have their first trituration, and second trituration, and third trituration, or their three hundreth dilution. We all know what they mean when they speak of a "mother tincture." There are not a dozen kinds of tincture, and there are not a dozen kinds of mother tinctures, and so on.

Our allopathic brethren are very strict indeed. Adherence to the pharmacopœia is taught as one of the most essential principles of regular membership of that party. A variation from it is as bad as to bolt from the regular political ticket. I wish that it were so to a certain extent among us. I would not have the investigators cramped. Let every person go ahead and find out as much as he can of new forms for remedies, and new remedies, and from time to time have them incorporated in a regular manner. But let us not have a hundred different remedies, all having substantially the same properties.

The work of framiug a pharmacopœia is not a light one. It cannot be done in a day or a week, nor, I might say, in a year. For my part, I have not had the time, nor, indeed, did I think that I was quite in the position to take hold of this work, if I had the time and desire to do it. We must select somebody who is capable in the first place, and in the second place, one who is willing, and will take an interest in it.

There are a great many dangers to be avoided in this matter, and I wish to particularly guard eclectics against them. If men are placed on that Committee in the future, who have an axe to grind, or who

are not capable of thoroughly sifting the matter to the bottom, we will be ashamed of our pharmacopœia. There are a great many writers that speak of these resinoids in the journals, that excite the risibilities of those who know more about it. We read in medical journals long descriptions of pharmaceutical preparations, where one article is described as a resinoid, and another as a neutral, and another an alkaloid, etc., when really a great majority of them are nothing but solid extracts dried and powdered, and if they won't stay powdered, a little magnesia or sugar of milk is shook into them, until they will remain powdered.

These are facts. I have lived behind the curtains a great many years. I have told my friends and the public, and yet a great many people do not believe me. They think I don't know. Well, "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." If a man can go along and use these, and get the effects desired, perhaps it is as well for humanity and himself that he should do so. But, for the credit of our cause, we want men at that point that can sift the matter thoroughly to the bottom, and that will not call an alkaloid a resinoid, and will not call a resinoid an alkaloid, and so on, and in that way stultify ourselves. We want men who can discriminate in making up compound syrups between useful and useless articles; that will not overload them with articles perfectly inert, and in many cases injurious. This work requires a great deal of care.

I don't know, gentlemen, that I can say anything more on this subject, at the present time, further than this: that whatever little talent I have for the matter, will always be at the command of the profession. I have no secrets — I never made a secret remedy, and I never shall. I never yet had a proprietary medicine; never had a medicine; don't own any interest now in one, and never shall. Whatever I know, any one shall find out, provided they don't want too much of my time in finding it out. At the same time I don't crave the position of writing a pharmacopœia, nor indeed could I afford the time. When I get home, I may be willing to sit down and write, but not now. I will, however, be ready to give my mind to this work whenever called upon, as far as in my ability lies. [Applause.]

VERBAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHEMISTRY.

BY H. D. GARRISON, M. D.
of Illinois.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: Prof. Sanders being chairman of this Committee, I presume he will expect to make a Report, and I am sure that I expected him to do so. But as he is not present, I will make a very brief verbal report.

During the past year, chemists, as ever, have been exceedingly busy. They are a very industrious class of people, and it is to their industry more than to their extraordinary talent that they occupy the position they do. I have taught and fully believe that chemistry is the foundation stone of scientific practice. Certainly anatomy and other collateral sciences are not to be ignored, nor can the importance of them be denied. But chemistry is the means by which we make advances; it is the auger, as it were, by which we bore into the future; it is the engine with which we press forward; it is the bridge which carries us over the deep abysses; it is the ladder which carries us up mountains; it is the light which prevents us from falling, and guides us in our path.

Chemists flourish somewhat according to the climate in which they live. This country is unfavorable to them, while the old country presents much greater facilities for the pursuit of that branch. Here, if you have talent, politics and the army and navy are very inviting fields. In the old country talent must be kept away from these things, for if it were to take hold of politics, it would seek to unseat a great many kings. Accordingly every inducement is held forth to keep talent out of that line. It therefore runs naturally to chemistry and other natural sciences.

It is to those people that we owe most of the real discoveries that are now being made, or that have been made during the past year. It is a little mortifying to Americans to admit this, but it is the truth, and we may as well admit it as to keep ourselves in ignorance of the fact.

The chemists of the old country, and especially of Germany, are working together with wonderful zeal. They are, as it were, on the frontier; they are the pioneers working slowly forward, not looking behind to see who follows, or whether anybody follows, or what they say, or whether anybody says anything; but going slowly and certainly ahead, just as the comet pushes forward without regard to whether its tail will follow or not, feeling certain that it surely will follow. So chemists are making advances every day in the practice and science of medicine. During the past year — indeed during the past ten years, I have watched the advances made by chemists with a great deal of interest; I have watched them to see whether Eclecticism was probably right or not; for I am not one of those who follow blindly, especially in a matter where there can possibly be any doubt. The experiments in physiological science, at least those that amount to much, are generally made by the aid of chemistry. I have watched those developments to see whether the platform on which we stand is probably sound; and my conviction from the developments of all investigations of the chemists up to the present time is more and more strong that we are right — that is, that the platform of anti-depletion, the platform in opposition to mercurials and antimonials is undoubtedly correct.

We see a constant tendency of the medical profession not only in this country, but particularly across the ocean, to veer in the direction in which we are sailing. They are abandoning those agents which accurate investigation has pointed out to be wrong, and are slowly coming into line. This is the case in the old country, and in this country the same result is taking place. In some exceptional cases we seem, apparently, to be going backward. I know of eclectics that are retrograding; I know so-called eclectics who are worse allopaths than those that call themselves allopaths. But on the other hand, I am acquainted with allopaths who are splendid eclectics — better than some of the eclectics themselves. That is, they have an earnest desire for the truth; they wish to be right; they wish to know the best medicines, and to use them without regard to where they come from.

During the past years a few remedies have been put prominently forward by pharmaceutists and physicians, though among new discoveries of any very great importance are the uses of carbolic acid and hydrate of chloral. These remedies have become permanent, and they have come forward during the past two years. They are now enjoying probably a larger use than they will in ten years from this time, but they are remedies that will never go out of use.

In the matter of organic chemistry a great deal has been done, though not much that directly applies to the science of medicine. Some organic alkaloids have been formed by synthesis; and hopes are entertained that a great many will be formed in the course of time, because some chemists seem to have found the key for unlocking the door to crooked questions. When we are able to make morphine and quinine by synthesis, we shall have those articles more abundant, and perhaps we shall use the latter more than now, if possible.

During the last year a number of new chemical journals have been started, and some half-way between chemical and pharmaceutical. Altogether chemistry is in the most hopeful condition that it ever has been in since my knowledge of the science, and we have every reason to believe that more and more attention will be turned to it. I regret that the matter has not been put forward more prominently in eclectic colleges. It has always been one of the stigmas upon eclectics that they were not good chemists. We have claimed a great deal with regard to materia medica, yet cannot point to very many undeniable discoveries made by bona-fide eclectics. That large numbers of them have come from outside of our circle is a fact well known to those who have investigated the subject carefully. I therefore regret that this science is not pressed more prominently upon pupils, and hope the time is not far distant when it will be made more obligatory, and will be placed somewhat in the light of anatomy. Our medical colleges are very chary about graduating a man who does not know whether the humerus is in his leg or arm, but they do not seem to care much whether a man knows whether sal-soda contains sulphuric acid or tartaric acid or something else. They don't seem to care much about that — it does not seem to make much difference. A man must know exactly where the drum of the ear is, which he will never see, and he must know about the sphenoid and ethmoid bones, while he may be graduated, though he does not know that sulphate of morphine contains sulphuric acid or what would decompose it; yet these are matters that may be of value to him every day, while many of these things that are insisted on a great deal are forgotten when we leave college. Just as when we have studied Greek and Latin, especially Greek, we forget them as soon as we enter business.

Of course, gentlemen, I could go on and report in this style for a length of time, but I think this is long enough; therefore, I hope you will excuse me from any further remarks. [Applause.]

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF MEDICAL ECLECTICISM.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY J. W. JOHNSON, M. D.
Retiring President.

Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen :—Custom, the demands of which are as exacting as Draconian requirements, and as inexorable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, has made it obligatory on me to address you at this time; and whether on this occasion the rule would not be more honored in the breach than the observance may perhaps be considered a debatable question. Nevertheless, with your indulgence, I propose to occupy your attention for a short time with some suggestions, which I hope to make somewhat appropriate or fitting to the time and occasion for which we are assembled.

The subject which I propose to present for your consideration is one in which I trust all feel deeply interested, — one fraught with momentous interests to us here assembled; and more especially of vital importance to the human family, namely, — The Past, Present, and Future of Medical Eclecticism.

In announcing this subject, I am fully aware that I can hardly expect to occupy new ground, or traverse unexplored paths; the subject having been ably and elaborately discussed on many occasions, and by those whose ability and experience should entitle them to attention and respect. But inasmuch as the National Eclectic organization is here assembled in annual convention, and under such flattering auspices, it would seem eminently fitting and proper that a full discussion of our principles should be had, as well as to deliberate on the best means for the dissemination of our views, and the promulgation of our system of medical practice in the future. We may proudly take a retrospective glance at our past history, with the full consciousness that the past has been all that its most sanguine friends could have desired or expected; and, while we can with gratification review our history and growth amid difficulties which to a timid mind might well have been considered as insurmountable, we should regard well the present, so that our actions and deliberations should so

abound with wisdom and judgment as to insure union, with a hearty co-operation, and then we may reasonably expect a glorious progress in future. No means should be left untried by which the fullest elucidation of our principles may be spread broadcast, before the public mind. The past cannot be recalled; the present is ours; the future is before us; and every energy should be exerted on the part of its warmest friends and admirers for the perpetuation, prosperity, and future success of our common cause. While I do not propose to give a history, or even an outline, of the different systems of Medical Practice, together with the conflicting theories which prevailed in ages past, and flourished for a time, and are now overthrown; or even to give a succinct or detailed history of the Eclectic System of Medical Practice, for the reason that our standard and our periodical medical literature have become so abundant that "he who runs may read"; and hence it would seem a waste of time to discuss those subjects on this occasion. Yet I cannot, without abandoning the subject announced, and perhaps proving recreant to the expectations of the friends of our cherished system, refrain from speaking in a general manner, and somewhat historically, of our origin, growth, present status, and our prospects for the future.

Unfortunately it is for general science, and a greater misfortune for suffering humanity, that the *Science of Medicine* (as it has been termed,) in the past, has been so replete with *errors, absurdities, contradictions,* and consequently *revolutions.*

The mind can hardly conceive, nor the pen portray the vast amount of human suffering, the anguish of soul, the premature decay, and death, resulting from this *Paganism* in medicine, and general ignorance of medical treatment and remedies, as it has existed for the past 2,000 years, and as evinced by the record of a clear and undisputed history of medicine.

It must be conceded by all that medical theories and practice in the past, have been subject to more fluctations and changes than has pertained to the arts and sciences in general. Indeed, so constant and great have been these changes, amid so many contradictions and absurdities, that it is not strange that the great mass of thinking, intelligent mankind, had in a great measure lost confidence in medicine as a science, and imperatively demanded a better, surer, and safer mode of medical treatment; have demanded as they had a right — in view of the important interests involved, more favorable results of medication. Especially, as the results in many instances have not been in any degree commensurate with the pretensions put forth on the part of the medical man; and so the history of medicine has shown

in the past, the almost constant conflict both in theory and practice, and the consequent changes, which have occurred with almost the regularity of rotation, failing as they have in a great measure, if not entirely, to remedy the evil complained of.

The almost utter failure to cure the maladies incident to the human race, the great uncertainty of medical treatment, or the action of remedies prescribed, have so appalled the human mind, that any real progress or actual improvement in the science of medicine has in the past as well as the present been eagerly grasped and cherished. In fact, the pretensions of charlatans, and the proposition of the most absurd theories that have promised the slightest relief, have met with eager disciples, and honest, though mistaken adherents.

Indeed, it is evident that the different systems or theories that have prevailed in times past have existed at the earnest demand of the people, hoping thereby for a surer and safer way for relief from the ills to which mankind have been and are subjected, rather than at the suggestion, or by the action of the votaries of the different systems uninfluenced.

So uncertain has been the healing art within the past few decades, that many gentlemen within my hearing will bear me witness that great uncertainty, as the result of treatment, and in many instances great fatality, has followed the best endeavors of the ablest medical men, even in the treatment in many cases of the most ordinary forms of disease. Medical statistics even at the present day afford almost the same unfavorable results; and without question, if the bills of mortality at the present time exhibit more favorable results, it is owing in a great measure, if not entirely, to a modification in treatment, abandoning almost entirely *venesection*, and in a greater or less degree mercurials, and substituting in their place the life-giving organic remedies, brought forth by the Eclectic Pharmaceutists of our day; for to the most casual observer it is apparent that great changes and modifications have taken place in the medical treatment of those denominated *old school* or *regulars* (self-styled), especially during the past thirty years, by the disuse of agencies once considered potent and indispensable; and the employment in many instances in their place of organic agencies, introduced by the advocates of our liberal system of medicine. The question, then, naturally arises, What has caused these great changes? Why the almost entire abolition of venesection? — the non-employment of which has become the rule — its employment the exception; for indeed so rarely has this once considered *all* important agent been employed within the last

quarter of the past century, that to witness the employment of the lancet for the abstraction of the vital fluid would be a novelty indeed.

So of the employment of other agents. Mercurial purgatives, once considered the "Samson of the Materia Medica," were regarded so important in the treatment of febrile diseases that the learned and renowned Dr. Rush, during the prevalence of the bilious yellow fever in Philadelphia in 1793, instructed his ignorant colored servants to bleed and purge indiscriminately, and with what results let the statistics of the same author testify.

From the first of August to the 9th of November, 4,044 deaths occurred in the city of Philadelphia from this disease alone, showing a fearful mortality of more than fifty per cent. We believe the merest tyro of medicine in our day, armed with Eclectic remedies, would show an exhibit of less than ten per cent. of mortality in the treatment of the same number of cases, and under the same circumstances. The eminent Rush may well exclaim: "I would as soon believe that Ratafia was intended by the Author of nature to be the only drink of man instead of water, as believe that the knowledge of what relates to the health and lives of a whole city or nation should be confined to one, and that a small or privileged order of men. But what have universities or medical societies done after the labors and studies of many centuries toward lessening the mortality of pestilential fevers? They have either contradicted or copied each other in all their publications. Plagues and malignant fevers are still leagued with war and famine in their ravages upon human life." Again says the same author: "Humanity has much to deplore from this paganism in medicine; the sword will probably be sheathed forever as an instrument of death before physicians will cease to add to the mortality of mankind, by prescribing for the *names* of diseases." What a lamentable statement, showing as it does the barbarism which then prevailed in medicine, and a relic of which may indeed be said to exist at the present day. But thanks to human progress, light is breaking upon the medical world. Progress and truth are marching hand in hand, until we believe ignorance, superstition, illiberality and exclusiveness must soon hide their hideous deformities, and the broad light of day in medicine shall shed its refulgent rays upon a suffering, benighted world. Without doubt, want of confidence, the almost utter inefficency of remedies, and the prevalent disbelief in the prevailing systems of medicine, as have existed in the past, was the cause of the inauguration of the Reform or Eclectic system of medical practice. The history of Eclecticism, or as it has been justly termed, the American system of liberal medicine, is doubtless familiar to most now be-

fore me. Its humble origin, under depressing circumstances; its rapid progress in development against opposition; its great success, although met by sneers and efforts to belittle its influence, added to open enmity; form a series of triumphs that have been witnessed by many now before me, who have been pioneers in the cause, who have borne the heat and burden of the day, who have battled with opposition, endured scorn and obloquy, but who have never faltered, and now witness the fruits of their labors. Some, alas! whose labors were pre-eminently useful in the early history of our cause, have been "gathered to their fathers," but their memories shall be revered. "There were giants in those days." All honor to the names of Thompson, Beach, Morrow, King, Jones, Newton, and I might enumerate a host of others, whose efforts and zeal in the glorious cause is highly commendable, and who have rendered valuable and important aid in developing and extending the principles and benefits of our cherished system of medical practice; a system which unfolds to its votaries the broad fields of nature and science, and allows them to glean from every source those remedial agents which their judgments pronounce superior, or adapted to the treatment of the peculiar pathological condition with which they have to contend. "No pent-up Utica contracts our powers." We are trammeled by no dogmas or creeds; we are free to embrace truth from any and every source. Truth courts investigation, while error flies at its approach. We seek in our researches for knowledge the broad fields of explored and unexplored territories or paths. The cognomen by which we are known is a synonym of liberality of thought, liberality in practice, liberality in the acquisition of knowledge in all matters pertaining not alone to the paths of medical science, but extending also to all departments of human endeavors. By cherishing principles of this sort, we become divested of illiberality, selfishness, and egotism; and while we may discover errors, yet our eclecticism is pretty sure to find some traces of truth in every organization, or effort to benefit the human race.

As pioneers in medical reform, we have surely passed through much tribulation, have received scoffs, been ridiculed and misrepresented; but a consciousness of the justice and wisdom of our cause, with its power to benefit mankind, to assuage the anguish and suffering of the afflicted, has inspired its advocates with vigor, and caused them to increase and redouble their efforts to extend the great benefits to be derived therefrom, until, without resting under the charge of egotism, we may safely affirm that we are established upon a firm and substantial basis.

Indeed, without a question, our growth has been characterized by

a rapidity of progress and magnitude unparalleled in the history of any reform of the nineteenth century, until at the present day there are more than ten thousand physicians of our order in the United States successfully engaged in a sustaining and lucrative practice, under the broad banner of Liberal Medicine, as well as aiding largely in the dissemination of our principles. State, county, and other local societies have been organized, and are well sustained. Medical institutions have been established, unfolding our principles to all who wish to avail themselves of their teachings, and with facilities for instruction equal to any similar schools in the land, with an able corps of professors to instruct those who desire to avail themselves of the opportunities afforded.

Our literature has fully kept pace with our practical advance, and we may justly feel proud of the standard works from the pens of many able men in our ranks. By their labors in this direction, they have done much to disseminate the principles of liberal medicine, and have built for themselves monuments more enduring than marble. Our periodicals and journals are ably conducted, and are deserving of honorable mention. Indeed, no vehicle employed in our aid has been more efficient in the promotion of our principles, furnishing as they do periodically their full quota of mental aliment.

And here, in the language of an eminent author, it may be proper to remark, that it is to the influence of organization that we are mainly to look for the rapid growth of our cause; and I am frank to say that in my judgment these organizations ought to be made more efficient than they are at the present time, thus giving an impetus to our National Society, which can be imparted in no other way. Indeed this very body should be more thoroughly organized, and by so doing become more efficient in developing medical truth. Our organization should be what its name implies, National; thus we may become a power in the land, which cannot fail to be acknowledged.

As an organization we should be in a condition to speak to the profession in some sense authoritatively, and hence an incorporation is desirable, either State or National; and it affords me pleasure to be able to announce, that such sanction has been given our organization by the legislature of the Empire State; and further, I am proud to say, that no State in the Union thus far has equalled New York for its generous aid in publishing and distributing gratuitously and annually the transactions of the State as well as the district eclectic societies, which appear to be in a flourishing condition. The generous

action of the State in this respect is deserving of honorable mention and commendation.

Our organization should be made so systematic as to insure the assembling together of men with undoubted ability, whose opinions might not be questioned. To foster the national Society, as powerful auxiliaries, State societies should be established and encouraged. Indeed it should be regarded as incumbent on the leading men of the profession in every State to use their influence, not only to have State organizations formed, but to have them become powerful aids to our National body. District societies should be organized especially in all the larger States, and thus become auxiliaries to the State bodies. All of these societies should meet annually, semi-annually or quarterly, for the careful examination of important medical topics, which may arise in their immediate locality. These auxiliary organizations should become numerous and general. The members thereof should feel it incumbent on themselves to suitably prepare their papers beforehand, in order that the subjects for discussion might be made profitable, and thus develop new and valuable truths. In a word, each and every one's benefit should be the object of each member. To speak figuratively, minute drops of water in sufficient numbers create a flood, and thus the energetic and united influence of the vast army of advocates of liberal medicine in our country, if directed into one mighty current, would in a short period of time sweep illiberal and intolerant allopathy from the land, and forever submerge it in the depths of oblivion.

And here I cannot refrain from mentioning one other important, — indeed, perhaps the most important means of advancing our cause. I refer to the influence of our medical institutions throughout the land. We have abundant reason for gratitude for the great good which has been accomplished through this channel. But equally much, or far more remains to be done. We have now several chartered colleges, established in different sections of the country, which demand and should receive, because of their merit and worthiness, the undivided aid and countenance of the profession. These schools are, and should be constantly scrutinized by our friends, as they surely will be by our foes; for according to the reputation of these, and such as shall hereafter be established, must be the standard of our medical literature. If high and honorable ground be taken, and the advocacy of an exalted degree of medical education become the rule, our cause will deserve and command the respect of an intelligent community.

If, on the contrary, those in charge favor a low degree of medical attainments, if they have a mushroom growth, and dispense unwor-

thily their parchments, without the least regard to merit, our system must suffer seriously in consequence, and Eclecticism will as surely lose its hold on the affections of an intelligent community, and degenerate in its character, and diminish in its influence, till it becomes a by-word among all classes of society. Much will therefore depend upon us collectively, and more particularly in our individual spheres of action. In a word, upon us will devolve the responsibility of the prosperity of our cause.

It is said of a fabled hero of antiquity, that he told a wagoner to put his own shoulder to the wheel, and then call upon divinity for aid, and help might reasonably be expected. And so with us. If we desire the smiles of an approving Providence in our behalf, we must labor, in a measure somewhat commensurate with the importance of our cause; and in the most appropriate way, we must apply our united strength to push forward the car of medical progress.

We cannot for a moment doubt, that our medical institutions of learning, conducted, as they should be, and as they may be, afford the chief vehicle for rolling onward the mighty cause of medical reform. Therefore to those schools, and to those connected therewith, should we look for Herculean efforts in our behalf. Their character and standard cannot be too elevated. The requirements of students, in order to receive the honors of graduation, cannot be disregarded with impunity. Indeed, those filling chairs in our colleges should be men of superior attainments; men skilled in practice, and with superior mental endowments. We should have men occupying the Professorships of our medical schools, whose ambition has led them to avail themselves of all the resources of knowledge in this country, and even the countries of Europe. Unfortunately, however, for us, in our infancy, with unendowed colleges, the tuition of students being the only means of income to the instructors, great sacrifice is often required on the part of teachers; oftentimes being illy repaid for their time and services. On the part of those engaged in the pursuit of medical knowledge in our schools, there should be manifested the zeal and energy commensurate with the importance of the undertaking, to comprehend the responsibility of the profession, to form correct conceptions of the relations of cause and effect; for in no dedepartment is this of more importance than in the science of medicine.

To say that thousands have been sacrificed through this unpardonable oversight, would not, I am persuaded, be transcending the bounds of truth. If then it be true that human life and happiness, the greatest boons of Providence, are made to depend in any measure upon correct ideas in medicine, how incalculably important is it

not to neglect the cultivation of medical truths! The study of symptomatology cannot be too strongly urged upon the student and practitioner of medicine. They should observe not only every symptom, but every minutiæ appertaining thereto. But while we say this much of symptomatology, we would also remark, that we should take one step farther, and take into consideration the source or origin of symptoms. Etiology, too, is a study of great moment, and together with symtomatology, are studies of great importance, and, indeed, may be regarded as indispensable to our success in the healing art. The physician who administers his remedies, after taking only a superficial view of the conditions present, without ascertaining as far as is in his power the causes upon which those conditions depend, and the relations which exist between them, cannot tell with any degree of certainty whether the medicine he intends administering will fulfill the correct or positive indication of treatment; or otherwise, because he has not informed himself what they are. Hence his practice becomes purely visionary, unsound, unreliable and unwarrantable.

What should we think of a man who would undertake to navigate the waters of the ocean without any kind of guide in the way of a chart or compass? Most certainly we should pronounce him insane. Unquestionably it is the duty of the student and physician, to analyse carefully every phenomenon, search out every relation, and note every point in the history of the case. In this way, and only in this way, can we arrive at just conclusions regarding the lesion; and when we have done this, when we have got possession of the cause, traced its relations with the conditions as they appear, then, and only then, we shall be enabled to apply treatment understandingly, and with positive assurance as to what will be the final issue. In addition to a strict observance of these important rules, a prominent, and I may say a distinctive feature in the system of medical practice which we adopt, lies in the choice of our remedies.

Instead of administering the most deadly poisons of the mineral and vegetable kingdoms as remedial agents, which are known and admitted to depress the vital powers, and thereby thwart Nature's healing process; instead of abstracting blood as a means of subduing inflammation and arresting disease; instead of employing drastic purgatives; instead of harassing the salivary glands with mercury, thereby creating a disease which oftentimes proves more formidable than the original malady; instead of excoriating the coats of the stomach with antimony, thereby inducing chronic inflammation of the organ with its attendant evils; instead of supposing the hepatic

viscus to be ever at fault; the alpha and omega of every local and constitutional derangement; we believe in a more rational, as well as efficacious system of medication, our aim being to sustain the vital powers, to assist Nature, not to baffle her efforts by poisonous and depressing agents. We hold that it is our duty to husband Nature's resources, to retain the blood, which is life's current, within the vessels; also the plastic and formative portions of the blood, which are elaborated for the purpose of repairing the worn-out tissues instead of draining them off by active and continued purgation. Instead of mercurials, which are given by their advocates with a view to "correct the secretions," we employ such remedies as podophyllin, leptandrin, iridin and others, which will accomplish all the benefits claimed for mercury, without producing disastrous secondary effects. Our remedies are largely selected from the vegetable kingdom; as we believe the organic means possess a decided advantage over the inorganic as curative agents. But while our reliance is mainly from this source, we would not spurn any agent not strictly deleterious, notwithstanding it may exist in a mineral or animal kingdom.

Having said this much in relation to our views as physicians of the Eclectic School of Medicine, it would seem becoming to urge a few considerations directly on this organization, with reference to the best course to pursue to foster and perpetuate our cherished system and extend its life-giving principles to generations yet unborn. It is important that in all our deliberations there should be harmony of action—requiring, maybe, concessions on the part of some, thus yielding individual views and preferences for the general good. Your legislative action should be made as broad as the principles which underlie our medical system. Let our motto be, "The greatest good of the greatest number." By action of this sort we shall be able to extend the blessing of our sanative system of medicine, and cheer the drooping spirits of many who are the victims of disease, who in their agony are led to exclaim,

> "Oh life, thou art a galling load,
> A long, a rough, a weary road,
> To writhers such as I."

No profession presents a wider field for the efforts and exertions of him who would prove a benefactor, who would by unwearied exertion, and professional research, invent means and adopt measures which will tend to benefit the unfortunate and afflicted sons and daughters of humanity — than the noble art of medicine. Let us prove ourselves worthy disciples, practitioners, and members thereof.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: In concluding, permit me to say, that our object, in all the time we spend; in all the efforts we make; in all the privations we suffer; in all the pleasures we forego; — in our efforts to extend our system of liberal medicine; should be to hush the dolorous voice of the suffering; to assuage the pangs of sickness; to bless mankind. Sickness, sorrow, and death are abroad in our land; they are the lot of mortals! Let our deliberations and aims be to mitigate the woes and sorrows incident to human existence, and thus call down on our heads the warmest gratitude, the richest boon of mankind.

RENAL CALCULI IN ANIMALS

BY G. W. CARPENTER, M. D.

Is there a local cause for the unusual preponderance of Renal over all other diseases in Western New York?

The well and surface water is remarkably *hard.* It has not the power when confined and shaken to maintain a frothy head—even with the addition of soap. Unlike rain water it lacks the cohesive properties that enable the film of the air bubbles to resist expansion and compression. When boiled it precipitates largely a white opaque substance resembling sandstone scrapings, plastic when warm, brittle when exposed to cold air.

For some time I have been examining the kidneys of animals that drink largely of this water, and in every case have found Renal Calculus; have obtained the kidneys from butchers' cows, steers, and sheep, all raised in the county. The Calculi varied in every shape and situation; small amorphous bodies, found mostly in the medullary substance—enclosed in the papillæ of the pyramids of malpighi —sometimes in the sinus, and, in one instance, imbedded in the cortical substance of the organ. The animals were from two to six years of age.

Most kidney complaints that have come under my observation exhibited distinctive characteristics of nephrites or nephralgia, conditions supposed to arise from the presence of Renal Calculus. I have had no opportunity to examine the human kidney, but from what evidence (analogous mostly) I have been able to collect, I am satisfied that it is not unreasonable to suspect the presence of Renal Calculus, perhaps superinduced by drinking the water of that region.

STATUS OF ECLECTICISM IN MASSACHUSETTS.

BY H. G. NEWTON, M. D.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION: — Your Committee appointed to present the condition or status of Eclecticism in Massachusetts, having considered the subject assigned to them, would report as follows:

First, by giving some statistics as to the number and increase of Eclectic physicians in Massachusetts and the ratio as compared with the whole number of practitioners in the State. It has proved to be a very difficult task to arrive at correct data in this respect. There are many, who, either from the nature of their minds, or from their investigations, or from both causes rather, have become as truly eclectic as we could wish, and yet in no way are they designated as such, so that by personal inquiry alone can we learn their mode of practice. Some of the figures, therefore, in the following tabular statement, are only proximate, but do not vary much from the real number which, though unknown to us now, we shall more nearly approach to year by year. We give, then, as the whole number of

Eclectic Physicians in this State,	125
Active Members in the Massachusetts Eclectic Med. Soc.	63
Deaths during the year ending June 1, 1871,	1
Withdrawn,	2
Received as Members,	5
Net gain during the year,	2
Honorary Members,	3
Whole number now on the Rolls,	66
Number when organized in 1860,	22
Died since organization,	6
Withdrawn " "	6
Expelled,	1
Whole number who have been members,	79
Number who have become allopathic or homœopathic,	0
Average attendance at meetings of the Society,	50

During the past five years the increase of physicians in the State

has been about 25 per cent., while with less advantages from well established schools, and against a strong tide of opposition amounting in some cases to a social ostracism, the Eclectic branch of the profession has increased about 50 per cent.

The Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society might, by a little different management, have added many more names to its rolls than it has during the eleven years of its existence. But our policy has been to receive as members those only who were well qualified to practice in the profession in the true eclectic method, which implies an ability in the candidate, not merely to practice in the allopathic mode should he choose so to do, but that he should, in addition to this, be familiar with the various remedial agencies employed by the other schools of medicine, and that he should evince a determination to keep thus well posted in the future, — that he should be free from prejudice and bigotry in order that, in any emergency, he may be able, with a clear mental vision, to select from nature's grand laboratory, such agents as would in that case, at that time, be most beneficial — that he may prescribe such a course as would be sanative without, at the same time, incurring the liability of thereby inducing a condition worse than that from which the patient was already suffering. One might be a fair or even an excellent allopathic or homœopathic practitioner, and yet it might not be deemed consistent to open the door of our Society on his application for admission thereto. He should possess in an eminent degree those qualities of mind and heart that would enable and impel him to attain to the above standard at least, or he would be of little service in the promotion of the great cause to which we have devoted the best energies of our lives, and had, therefore, better remain outside. This policy, although by some of our brethren regarded as an objectionable feature, we are proud to assert that it is one of the best in our platform, and would aver, therefore, that the cause is planted on a more substantial and enduring basis in the Bay State, than in those communities that adhere to a less stringent policy in regard to the admission of members into their incorporated societies. Those that we have (with, I regret to say, a few exceptions,) are live, working men — men of principle — not engaging in the practice of medicine merely as a means of livelihood — much less for the rapid accumulation of wealth, but because they love their profession and believe in the principles of eclecticism, and that in this as in no other calling, they can perform a more noble work; that in the faithful performance of this noble mission they are obeying the highest impulses of their mental and moral nature.

Such a body of men, though not numerous, can accomplish much; and, working as they have for nearly a dozen years — although formerly isolated from any national association, and opposed at home by a venerable, wealthy and influential organization, they have, in spite of these and many other discouragements, accomplished as much as might have been expected of them, though they do not pretend to have done all that they wished to, nor as much as they are determined to do in the coming decade.

In our past efforts in the cause of eclecticism, we call attention to a few items in the account which we claim credit for.

First. That a bond of union has been created and developed among the discordant elements that before existed. This has been brought about as much by the social features of our State and distinct organizations, as by the awakening and encouragement of our feelings of attachment to each other, which we regard as not secondary in importance to any part of our work. Being thus united, by a sympathetic love of our common cause, we are prepared to act together should the professional standing of any or all of us be infringed upon, by unfriendly or unjust legislation, or unfavorable political complications.

Second. We have attained to a higher state of respectability in the Commonwealth — command the favorable notice of the metropolitan press, and maintain a position in which our influence will be felt if necessary among the law-makers of the country, and even in the ranks of our opponents — so that in many cases at present, and, as we believe, with most in the future, they will be compelled to treat us with decent respect, and due deference, if not with cordial amity.

Third. We are opening the way for better educational facilities, by aiming to resuscitate as soon as feasible the school of which we still have a charter, which was formerly located at Worcester, and which once enjoyed a great degree of prosperity and usefulness — elevating the standard of medical education in the State and country, and giving to our branch of the profession many graduates that have since proved eminently useful, and to whose professional career the founders of that Institution might point with an honest pride, — for they have contributed as much as any, to the successful progress of eclecticism in the past, and possess an enthusiasm in the cause that will prompt them to greater works in the future.

Fourth. Having become satisfied that many students who reside in the northern and eastern portion of New England would sooner go to an allopathic school near their homes, than go to New York, Cincinnati, or some other remote place, and that from the influence used

at allopathic schools, they are likely to be prejudiced in favor of that effete and obsolescent system, we consider it an important duty to re-establish our school in the metropolis of New England, where those of our students who may choose to, can be educated more liberally and thoroughly — and thus have the pathway opened before them to a far more useful and successful professional life. We are quite sure that eclectic physicians in our State are fully aware of the importance of this proposed measure, and only lack sufficient pecuniary means to insure success in the undertaking, and that such means will not long be wanting.

So far from this being a disadvantage to any college or institution already in operation, we contend that the judicious location of one or two more well regulated medical schools in this country would help them more than any other measure. These views must be patent to any one who deliberately investigates this subject in a liberal, unselfish spirit. Every eclectic medical school, if well conducted, with an interested and talented corps of instructors — laboring industriously for the improvement of their pupils, and the advancement of our cause, — becomes from the very nature of the case a centre of influence, from which radiates great illuminating truths, to influence and awaken the minds of many who, without such means to enlighten them, would forever perhaps remain in the dark blindness of allopathic bigotry.

If it is the saddest of reflections to contemplate the case of a lost mind, why should it not be as sad, to allow multitudes of minds that, under proper training, "might have lighted up and led their age," to go, like mental slaves to antiquated dogmas, into a routine medical practice, and thus become to an alarming extent mental or professional failures.

If this is true of the good influence of our eclectic medical institutions, and we are quite sure that it can be fully substantiated, how important that one such school should be established and sustained in Boston, which all acknowledge to be the Hub of the Universe.

Fifth. Another way in which our Society has been useful is by the cultivation and development of individual talent among our members — by enlisting their best energies in the work pertaining to our profession — the writing or presenting essays on various subjects, theoretical and practical, and the participation in the discussions that often arise in our meetings — thus by enlivening our thoughts and enlarging the sphere of our knowledge, giving us clearer views of our mission, we become better prepared to fulfill our duties, and to help onward the car of progress and reform, and to attain, as individuals and an association, to a more noble destiny.

THE VITAL POWERS, AND HOW TO SUSTAIN THEM.

BY G. W. PICKERILL, M. D.
Of Indianapolis, Ind.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN: It has pleased the "Powers that be" of our brotherhood to select me as an exponent of the principles of *Eclectic Medicine* on this occasion. If I did not know this duty had been so much better done than I can even dare to dream of doing it, I should not feel the embarrassment so keenly in my attempt. It being, however, a law of my life to do, to the best of my ability, that which my "hand findeth" to do, I waive every objection, and enter the field.

It shall not be my object to elucidate the principles which should underlie a rational practice of medicine, but rather to give a key to the beautiful casket of jewels which is ready to be unlocked, and the rubies burnished for the workman's use. After reviewing the labyrinth of theory and speculation, we find ourselves met with two theories of life. The one claims "that the chemical and physical forces observed in nature are sufficient to account for all the processes and phenomena of life; consequently, that in a true physiology the whole series of vital operations is to be explained on chemical principles." In other words: Man is nothing but a laboratory for the chemist's use. A second class of thinkers claim that "Life being beyond our knowledge, intangible to our senses, and therefore not susceptible of reason," it is "useless to speculate upon it." The acceptance of either of these theories is calculated to retard the rise and progress of the true nature of man, and a proper understanding of the laws by which he is governed. I cannot accept either as true. But I shall, however, run the risk of being dogmatic, rather than enter into any speculation at this time. Without controversy, suffice it to say, there is a life force — a life current — a soul pervading all organic beings, which fills, feeds and animates; which builds and unbuilds — which is constantly and yet unconsciously

"Building and unbuilding our echoing clay."

Plato calls it the *Anima Mundi;* the soul of the world, which, as he claims, is constantly pervading and vivifying all created things. The poet Virgil beautifully says:

> "Know first, a spirit with an active flame,
> Fills, feeds, and animates this mighty frame,
> Runs through the watery worlds, and fills the air,
> The ponderous earth, the depths of heaven afar,
> Glows in the sun and moon, and burns in every star."

The characteristics of species do not change; individuals are constantly changing, but species never. Mobicular changes are not sufficient to effect specie change, but are ever present effecting individual change. The life or "formative" forces constrain the new material to follow the direction of the proximate or old, which it displaces so far as formation and development of the individual and specie may require.

We must confess we know but little of life, only as it manifests itself in the phenomena of external nature. We do know,

> "Nature lives by toil:
> Beasts, birds, air, fire, the heavens and rolling worlds,
> All live by action, nothing lies at rest
> But death and ruin."

Life, how wonderful! Wherever fancy or science may please to direct the view, the transcendent and ever-beautiful miracle of nature is Life. Whether considered as supporting the material fabric of the mind, or the immaterial entity itself, or rooted in the treasures of the organic world, or unlocking the "rock-ribbed earth," it is equally supremely wonderful and transcendent and beautiful. Springing from etherial airs, yet silent and invincible; constantly perishing, and yet ever living; abounding in, and building, and unbuilding airs, earths, and seas, and yet *death* is ever conquering, ever changing, but lo! life is ever triumphant,—"the strongest and weakest of the things God has made."

A French writer very ingeniously calls this formative or life force *L'esprit de vie,* and says, "It has the color of fire or the eclectric spark, and is generative and plastic, inducing formation, and bending everything it touches into the forms prescribed by the directing intelligence. * * It is the vital essence of all the species in which it is incarnate; and is itself profoundly modified by all the mediums which it traverses. It is flesh when it traverses the flesh, and bone when it traverses the bones." The magicians of antiquity called it he *living fire.* It is a beautiful provision of nature that the indwelling life determines the external forms of things. Is there a reason why each human being, plant, and animal should assume its own

precise form and configuration in preference to any other? And "may it not be found in the necessity of adapting form to character?"

We may liken the human body to a building moulded and developed into beautiful proportions of perishable materials, which will need constant renewal to maintain the usefulness of the structure. The permanent architect is the *indwelling life* just spoken of. The best workman performs his duty, not by fits and starts, but by an ever-watchful care and industry. It is his aim every moment to remove decayed material from the structure, to be carted away at proper and stated periods; and this decay should be replaced by new and fresh materials. Hence, we have the "destructive" and the "constructive" departments carried on simultaneously. On the completeness of these depend that which we call *health.*

The tendency to die is the prevailing condition of all organic beings. There is a wise provision in nature to counterbalance this by the tendency to produce her kind. Life is ever evanescent. The more rapid or active the formative or life forces, the more rapid are the changes wrought. "The reproduction of its capacities is in fact a tendency to death, because it lives off its own forces." The object of new material, therefore, is apparent — the renewal of structure. The constant, and the positive, and the inherent efforts of nature being the reproduction and maintenance of her kind, we comprehend the importance and necessity of the *renewal of life.*

As it is very necessary, in order to have a clear conception of the science of medicine, that we have a proper understanding of human life, I shall run the risk of making this part of my paper too long by giving attention for a moment to the two leading forces which act upon the materials of which the human body is composed, producing all the various changes and actions in the economy, both in disease and in health. There is recognized two separate and distinct forces in the human body, as well as in all organic beings, which are antagonistic to each other. These are called *vital* and *chemical* forces. The one *constructive,* the other *destructive.*

"The vital force is that power which from the single cell builds up the entire organism; separates from the nutritious materials furnished it, those portions which form the different organs of secretion, excretion and innervation; supplies the waste of the tissues, and tends to keep up the body intact."

In the chemical force the cause of waste is recognized; the disintegration of the tissues, the change of materials from a higher to a lower grade of organization; in a word, all the retrograte tendencies in the body are recognized. Its office is to change from life and health to disease and death.

The organic law of life is *union.* Let this be destroyed and we have set up at once a tendency to disease, which is death in proportion to this disunion or departure from the healthy or normal standard. The objects, therefore, of medical science are obvious: *first,* the preservation of the union of the life forces—*health; second,* the restoration of this union when once destroyed—*the removal of disease; third,* the physical perfection of man.

A regular and co-ordinated action of all parts of the body are conditions favoring and necessary to the formative or vital force. Of these may be named, a continued renewal of structure by the constant supply of materials. There must be a healthy condition of the digestive organs. The products of the chemical force of the body, waste and refused materials, must be regularly and continuously removed, both local and general, that no deposits undergoing retrograde metamorphosis, or decaying or dying material, remain in the blood to impair the vitality of tissue. There must be a regular and an equal circulation of the blood. The great system of telegraphing, with its wondrous battery, poles and wires—the nervous system—must be in regular and uninterrupted action; either excess or defect results in rapid exhaustion of vitality. The furnace of the body must be kept regularly going at a proper temperature. From these there must be no departure.

As has been already noticed, any agency that shocks or violently changes or affects any natural function, modifies and impairs the *vital forces* of the body. The harmony or union of the life forces being disturbed, *disease* makes itself manifest. Disease may be measured by the rule of *excess, defect,* and *perversion.* This is simple and always applicable. The analysis of a simple disease verifies this rule — in a fever, for example, we have *excess* in the circulation of the blood, an *excess* in the amount of heat, and may be an *excess* in innervation; we have a *defect* in digestion, a *defect* in excretion, blood-making and nutrition; following these we have *perversion* of the circulating medium, and retention of effete matter from deficient secretion and excretion. I have tried to show that all diseased action is modified vital action—life force—an evidence of enfeebled life, either of a part or of the whole system—*a depression* of functional activity. I cannot, therefore, see the science in resorting to debilitating and exhausting agencies in the attempt to remove diseased action. Already depression, why depress still more? Already exhaustion, why exhaust still more? Already partial death—death in proportion to the departure from the normal standard—why kill farther? But science I see conversely: *Agencies*

that look to a better performance of functional activity conserve and increase the vital or formative forces, thereby the power to live. Agencies that will tend to change abnormal into normal action—reinstate the equilibrium of the forces of the body, and give tone, innervation, and aid to the nutritive functions. Taking this view of diseased action, we have good and solid reasons for rejecting and protesting against those agents and means made use of by many physicians, that have a tendency to enfeeble and exhaust the already failing powers of the system, to ruin and send to a premature grave thousands who might have been spared if proper means had been used. Among these agents, I may name mercury, arsenic, lead, tartar-emetic, venesection, too large doses of iodide potassium, and podophyllin, and many other agents when used in the heroic doses as per many, *even so-called reformed* physicians. Disease being a partial death, medical art should support, and not weaken, the depressed forces. *Help!* is the watchword if nature is unable to remove the obstacle in her way. We have lowered life; reason says, "Exalt it." The agents best calculated to do this may be classified something like this: *First,* agents placing the digestive organs in the best possible condition for favoring digestion, assimulation and innervation. *Second,* agents to control the circulation, giving an equal and regular momentum to the fluids of the body. *Third,* agents exciting and establishing secretion, and thus removing effete and waste matter from the system. *Fourth,* agents arresting local disease.

Form a specific diagnosis, and taking our departure from the above classification, specific medication casts a shadow (to place it mildly, to save the timid and fearful from frightful dreams), at least in the field of the exact sciences. *Specific medication* follows *specific diagnosis.* I cannot conceive of a truth more manifest than the one just stated, in the vast range of medical lore. Let us do away with this old humdrum, "whipping the devil around the stump" treatment, and come to truth and common sense and science. It is coming! The mutterings of a new era are heard near at hand. Let us hail it with a welcome heart. Unquestionably the great thing of events is for changes to come, because they must; for the old to give place, because it is done with, is out-grown, dead or dying, and cannot resist the rise and progress of truth and thought. The old dogmas of the past must give way to the better and safer principles of the present. There can be no pause, no rest, no peace, while new wants demand new supplies; for, the law of progress is onward and upward; the course of events is inevitable. To the movers of the American Reform in Medicine belongs the honor of sending out, as a pioneer messen-

ger upon the face of the great and mighty sea of human progress, the spirit of Eclectic investigation. The world stands to-day its living witness that it has not returned void of success. By this onward and upward flight a monument of truth stands, like a mountain of fire in the blackness of night, out of the surging ocean of human ignorance and error. Now, that the dark and surging billows of human superstition and a blind worship of the gods are passing away, we hail the messenger, all hail! and time alone—the revealer of all truth and error—will vitalize and revivify a once deluged world, and prepare it for the choicer seed of progression and benefaction to the human race, and stamp the immutability of eclectic truth upon every page of human action. This beautiful monument as it stands to-day before the admiring world, we have in a picture like this: Eclectic Medicine is unlimited in its resources, untrammelled by the dogmas and exclusiveness of faculties, schools or creeds. We are proud to boast of a medical science and art purely and truly eclectic in spirit and in fact. By it we are invited into all the wilderness of nature, there perchance some plant may grow, some balsam trickle, some gum exude which will afford relief to the ills of men; and, still on in the pathless solitude, we may discover something inherent which will grant relief to suffering as yet beyond control. The true eclectic is invited to test the multiplied thousand springs, on the mountain side, on the beautiful landscape, on the meandering shores of earth's endless rivers, perchance some rivulet, or babbling, murmuring brook, or gushing fountain in silence since the appearing of man has wasted on the silent and unconscious earth its precious waters, the preserver of health and the catholicon of life. He is invited to test the treasures of the everlasting hills and mountains, perchance there he may discover that which will stay the hand of the plague and the terror of the pestilence. Gentlemen, the beautiful monument fills the universe. This is the glory and triumph of American Eclectic Medical Science. It has no creed merely as such to enunciate. It has no hobby to protect. It stands supremely upon the immensity of space. Based upon a sufficiently broad range of observation truly. The evangel of the present epoch of the world's history is "The freedom of the individual;" freedom to worship Deity according to the promptings of the indwelling soul; freedom to choose vocations best suited to taste and desires, without the restriction of a "Holy Inquisition;" freedom to entertain and promulgate sentiments honestly believed without fear or hinderance. Religious, social, and political freedom is the ultimatum of the onward and upward flight of the evangel messenger o'er the restless, surging ocean of human events.

The hope and bulwark of our fair land is education. The educated mind inspired by the truth, swayed by the right and common sense should and *will* rule the world. This has become the watchword to success in every department of intellectual life. The farmer, the mechanic, the stock-raiser, the merchant, in a word, everywhere the flag of education is unfurled to the breeze of progress. This, too, is the hope and anchor of Eclectic Medicine.

Education neglected, and the whole superstructure of the Eclectic school falls to ruins; this is true of any other, and as it should be. As our brotherhood become better educated, their power and usefulness increase, breaking down the iron walls of ignorance, superstition, intolerance, bigotry, and assumption. Reforms do not, as a rule, have their origin with the educated and accomplished; but, then, the rise and progress of the world demand that education step in and carry the work thus begun to a successful issue.

The duty, then, is apparent to every true and faithful reformer. Scholastic attainments must be the fortification strong and impregnable; gentlemanly culture the commanding general of the warfare; genuine kindness of heart the bombshell of truth. Before these, the ramparts of error, ignorance, and wedded bigotry must fall, and the victors may nobly exclaim:

VENI, VIDI, VICI!

APPENDIX.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

IMMEDIATELY after the Annual Meeting of the Association, held in October, 1871, the Executive Committee commenced corresponding with different members of the Profession relative to the holding of the next meeting. The Committee soon learned that there were no Eclectic physicians in Cleveland, Ohio, and that the expression of the Profession was against holding our next meeting in that city.

Pursuant to a call from the President, the Executive Committee met in New York city on Wednesday, March 27, 1872. A quorum being present, the Committee proceeded with the transaction of business.

On motion, the following Committees were appointed to prepare reports for the next Annual Meeting, namely:

GENERAL SURGERY.

R. S. Newton, M. D., New York. H. N. Young, M. D., Illinois.
E. Freeman, M. D., Ohio.

GYNÆCOLOGY.

A. L. Clark, M. D., Illinois. H. E. Firth, M. D., New York.
John Stowe, M. D., Massachusetts.

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

Wm. Jones, M. D., New York. H. Wohlgemuth, M. D., Illinois.
J. W. Johnson, M. D., Connecticut.

THERAPEUTICS AND MATERIA MEDICA.

J. F. Cook, M. D., Illinois. E. S. McClellan, M. D., New York.
Henry Long, M. D., Indiana.

OPTHALMIC AND AURAL SURGERY.

Henry Olin, M. D., Illinois. J. M. Youart, M. D., Indiana.

DISEASES OF THE RECTUM AND ANUS.

R. A. Gunn, M. D., New York. C. Edwin Miles, M. D., Mass.
P. A. Morrow, M. D., New York.

MALIGNANT TUMORS.

O. E. Newton, M. D., Ohio. Milton Jay, M. D., Illinois.
V. Clarence Price, M. D., Illinois.

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATING ORGANS.

M. M. Miles, M. D., Illinois. P. W. Allen, M. D., New York.
Wm. S. Johnson, M. D., Vermont.

OBSTETRICS.

C. E. Witham, M. D., Iowa. Wm. Molesworth, M. D., N. Y.
S. B. Munn, M. D., Connecticut.

PHYSIOLOGY.

W. H. Kendrick, M. D., Indiana. V. A. Baker, M. D., Michigan.
J. M. F. Brown, M. D., New York.

CHEMISTRY.

R. E. Kunze, M. D., New York. H. S. Firth, M. D., New York.
H. W. Buxton, M. D., Massachusetts.

PHARMACOPŒIA.

H. D. Garrison, M. D., Illinois. E. S. McClellan, M. D., New York.

NEW REMEDIES.

W. R. Hayden, M. D., New York. H. K. Whitford, M. D., Illinois.
R. A. Beach, M. D., Michigan.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

J. C. Spray, M. D., New York. B. B. Ussher, M. D., Illinois.
M. F. Linguist, M. D., Connecticut.

PRESENT STATUS OF ECLECTICISM.

Geo. Dutton, M. D., Vermont. H. G. Newton, M. D., Mass.
L. A. Shattuck, M. D., Conn. Dennis E. Smith, M. D., New York.
C. H. Archer, M. D., New Jersey. C. D. Thompson, M. D., Penna.
S. H. Potter, M. D., Ohio. Jas. S. Cowdrey, M. D., Indiana.
E. M. Shaw, M. D., Michigan. A. B. Westcott, M. D., Illinois.
M. R. Teegarden, M. D., Wis. E. M. Morehouse, M. D., Minn.
J. A. McKlveen, M. D., Iowa. H. L. Mathews, M. D., Nebraska.
Thomas R. Fraser, M. D., Nova Scotia.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the Committee :

Whereas, — We are desirous of promoting the interests of progressive medicine, and of increasing the importance and usefulness of the National Eclectic Medical Association; and

Whereas — We have made inquiries relating to the prospects of holding a successful meeting at Cleveland, and have learned that there were no Eclectic Physicians in that city, and that we would not be likely to receive co-operation from places in the vicinity; therefore

Resolved, — That we do not hold our next meeting at Cleveland.

Resolved, — That the Secretary be instructed to correspond with physicians in different cities, and ascertain what place would be best for holding said meeting.

On motion, the meeting of the Committee adjourned.

MAY 21, 1872.

THE Executive Committee met in the city of New York for the transaction of business.

R. A. Gunn said he had corresponded with several members of the profession in Cincinnati and elsewhere, but had arrived at no conclusion in regard to the place of holding the next meeting. He had, however, received a letter from J. G. Van De Walker, M. D., Secretary of Indiana State Eclectic Medical Association, inclosing the following resolution, passed by the Indiana Association at its last meeting, in May, 1872, namely :

"*Resolved,* — That this Association cordially invite the National Eclectic Medical Association to hold the next Annual Meeting at Indianapolis, Ind."

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to write to Dr. Van De Walker, accepting the invitation, in behalf of the Executive Committee.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to announce that the place for holding the next meeting was changed from Cleveland, O., to Indianapolis, Ind., and that he request all the Eclectic journals to publish the same for two or three months prior to the time for holding the meeting.

On motion, the Committee adjourned.

ERRATA.

THE following Act of Incorporation of this Society, passed by the Legislature of the State of New York, was adopted at the last meeting, as part of the Constitution of the Association :

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE NATIONAL ECLECTIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. Passed March 27, 1871. *The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly*, do enact as follows:

SEC. 1. John Wesley Johnson, Stephen H. Potter, J. S. Cowdrey, William Molesworth, R. A. Gunn, J. E. Hurlbut, James M. Comins, Benjamin J. Stow, Robert S. Newton, William Jones. Herod D. Garrison, J. M. Harding, S. B. Munn, Dennis E. Smith, Horatio E. Firth, and those associated with them, are hereby constituted a corporation under the name of "The National Eclectic Medical Association," with the full rights and powers, for the purposes of this act, of natural persons.

SEC. 2. The object of this corporation shall be to maintain organized co-operation between physicians, for the purpose of promoting the art and science of medicine and surgery, and the dissemination of beneficial knowledge and an improved practice of medicine.

SEC. 3. The business of said corporation shall be managed by its executive committee, consisting of its president, secretary, treasurer, and such other officers as the association shall designate; and elections shall be held annually, as provided by the constitution, all persons so elected shall hold office for the term of one year, and till their successors are chosen. The persons elected in Septemder last as officers of said corporation, shall hold office till till such election of successors. At all meetings of said association fifteen members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SEC. 4. The said corporation shall be subject to the provisions of title third, chapter eighteen of the first part of the Revised Statutes, and to the general laws for the government of scientific and benovolent associations, so far as the same shall be applicable, and not inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

Article I, section 2 of the By-laws, instead of the "six regular delegates and six alternates," should read, *twenty regular delegates and twenty alternates.*

Section 3 of Article I, instead of "to the number of twelve representatives," should read, *to the number of twenty representatives.*

Section V is omitted — it reads as follows:

"Sec. V. Each State represented shall cast twenty votes, by their delegates present, for the election of officers, and for selection of the place for holding the Annual meeting of the Association; but on all other questions, each member present shall be entitled to vote."

Page 32, line 15, "Ohio" should read Iowa.

On pages 80 and 83, the name of John Stowe, M. D., of Massachusetts, chairman of the Committee on Credentials, was omitted.

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